



BAKEMONOGATARI

4

OH!GREAT
ORIGINAL STORY:
NISIOISIN

ORIGINAL CHARACTER
DESIGN: VOFAN



Surugamonkey



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4

THE STORY SO FAR

Mayoi Hachikuji is a "Lost Snail" who can never reach her mother's house. Koyomi Araragi enlists the help of Hitagi Senjogahara and aberrations expert Mèmè Oshino, and somehow manages to bring the Lost Snail back home. After that, Koyomi accepts Hitagi's declaration of love and they start going out. Now that the case has been solved and a new relationship has begun, things are finally starting to look up...

my
heart
melts
for you.

Senjo-
gahara,

MAIN CHARACTERS



**Hitagi
Senjogahara**

A girl whose weight was once stolen by a "crab." Tells Koyomi how she feels when they send Mayoi on her way.



**Tsubasa
Hanekawa**

The infallible class president in Koyomi's class who was once bewitched by a "cat." Dealing with problems at home.



**Koyomi
Araragi**

A boy who was attacked by a vampire. Accepts Hitagi's confession of love and is currently dating her.



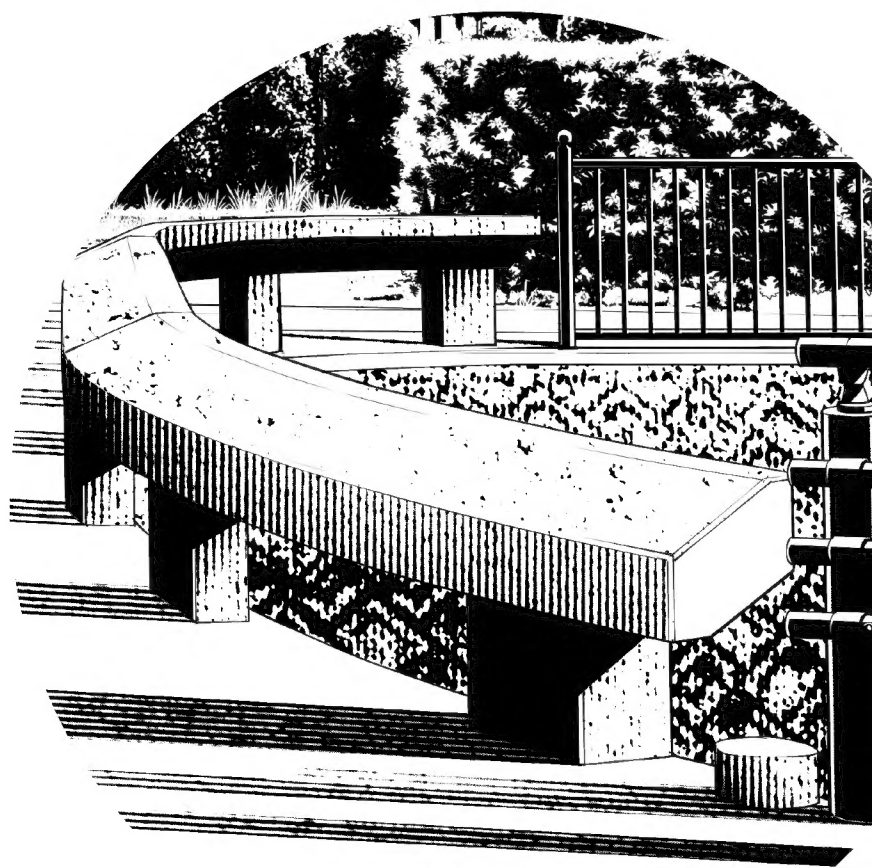
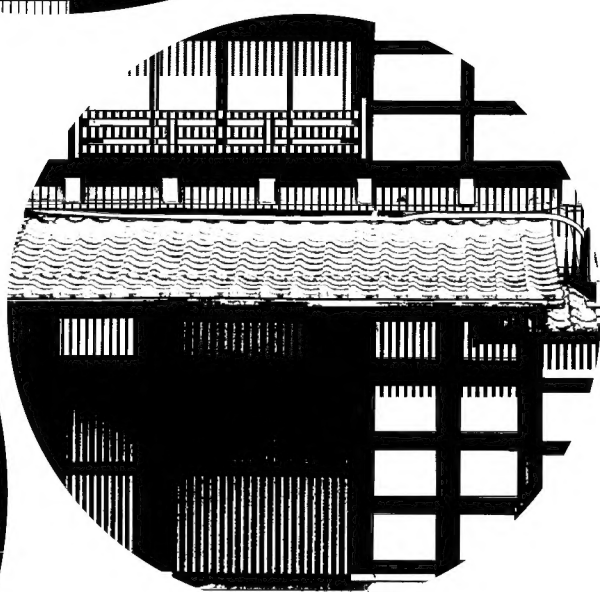
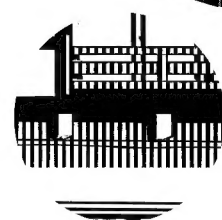
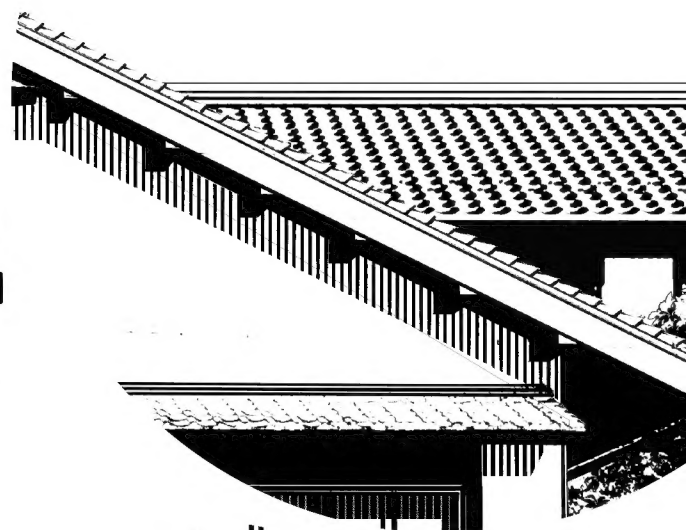
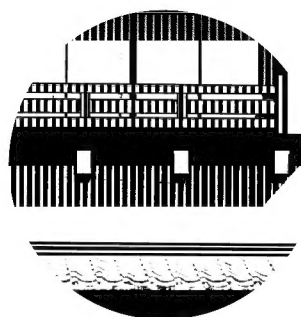
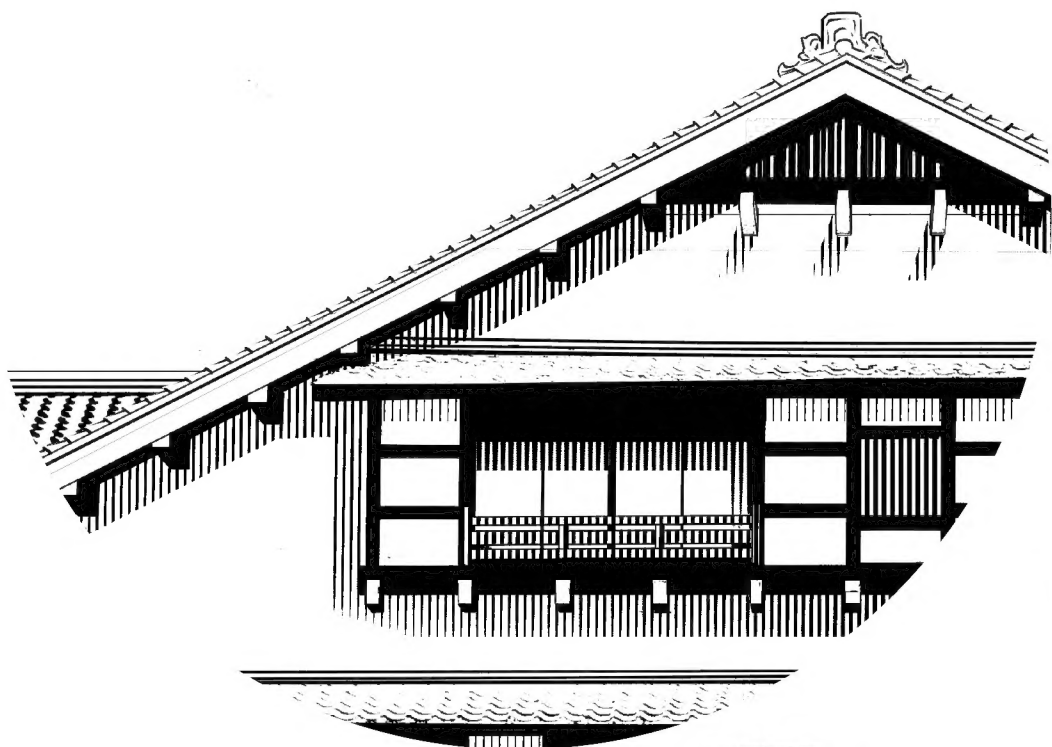
**Mayoi
Hachikuji**

A "Lost Snail" who tries to visit her mother's house but can never arrive. Finally makes it home after Koyomi and friends save her.



Karen Araragi / Tsukihi Araragi

Koyomi's two younger siblings who are known as "Tsuganoki Second Middle School's Fire Sisters." Rouses Koyomi from bed each morning. Karen is the older sister. Tsukihi is the younger one.



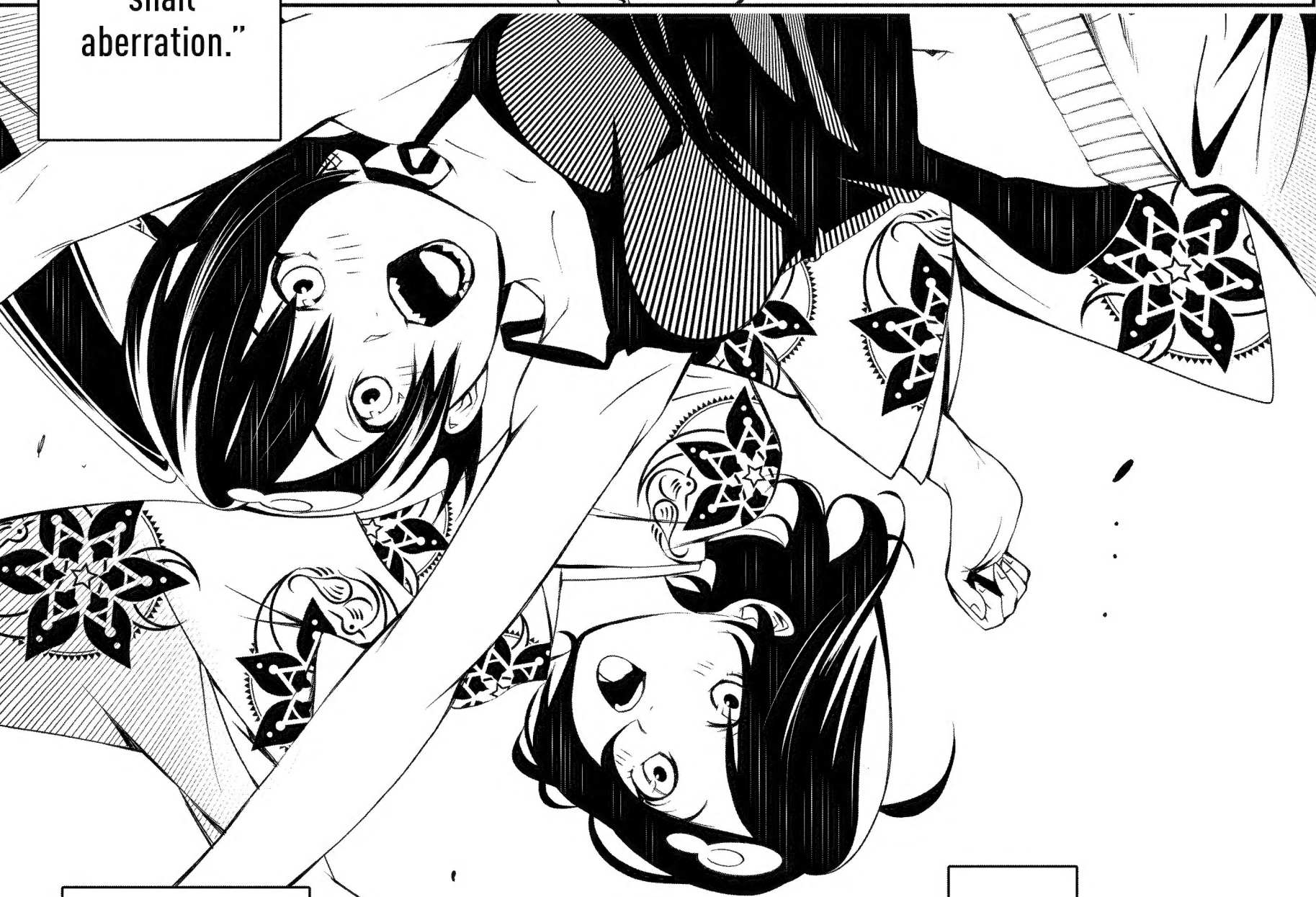
Chapter 3

Suruga Monkey

Here's
the
epi-
logue.
Or
maybe

the
punchline
to this
"snail
aberration."

KOYO-
MIII!
WAKE
UP!



by my
sisters
Karen
and
Tsukihi
as usual.
It seemed
...



I was
roused
from
bed

The
next
day,



I'm sorry

yyyyy!

and that seemed to dissipate their anger without incident.

I promised that I wouldn't leave home next Mother's Day, no matter what,

Then,

that my apology—essentially a statement of unconditional surrender—had worked.

Two weeks later.
May 29, 5:20 p.m.







HOW
HAVE
THINGS
BEEN? ANY
INCIDENTS
SINCE LAST
TIME?

I'M
GLAD
TO SEE
YOU'RE
DOING
WELL!

That
kind of
thing isn't
common.

It's
been
peaceful.
Quiet,
even.



Huh?
Well,
the
thing
is
...

How
about you,
Mayoi?
I thought
you fully
passed
on to the
afterlife...

No, no.
It's
nothing.

HM? IS
SOMETHING
THE
MATTER?!

Oh.
Um...

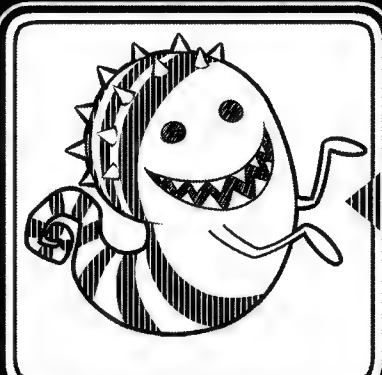




**THANKS
TO
YOU,
MIS-
TER
ARA-
RAGI,**

**I'VE BEEN
PROMOTED
FROM
RESIDUAL
GHOST TO
WANDERING
GHOST!!**





Wandering Ghost
Lv.3 ★



unknown
Lv.?



Residual Ghost
Lv.51 ★★

But... what's between a residual ghost and a wandering one...?

Anyway,

Job change



You
seemed to
be in quite
the hurry!

what
is the
matter,
Mister
Araragi?



Oh,
I'm just
stopping
by home.

Yeah.

I have a
skills test
coming up.

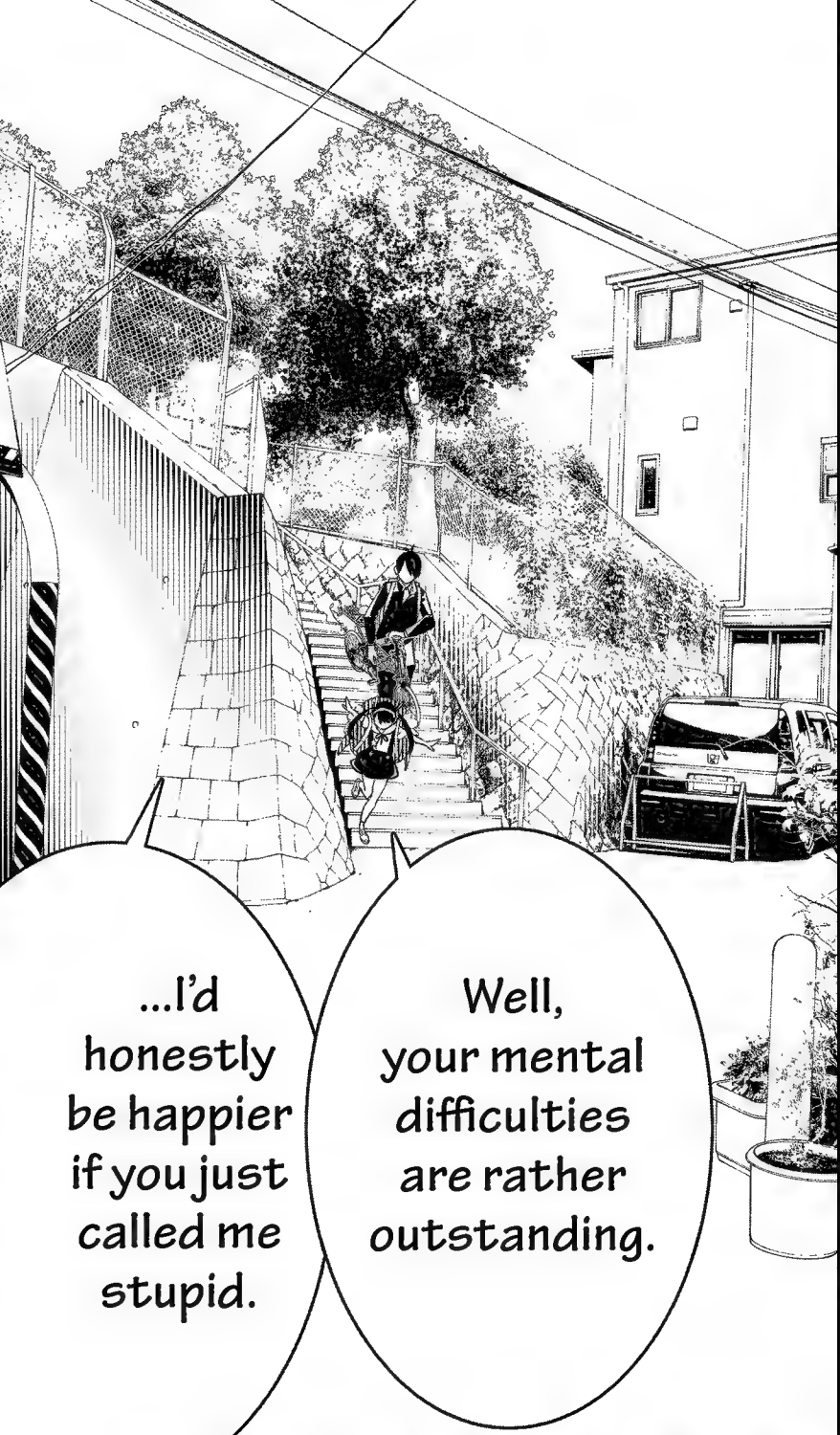
"Just
stopping
by"?
So you'll be
out again
later?



Your
skills,
Mister
Araragi
...?

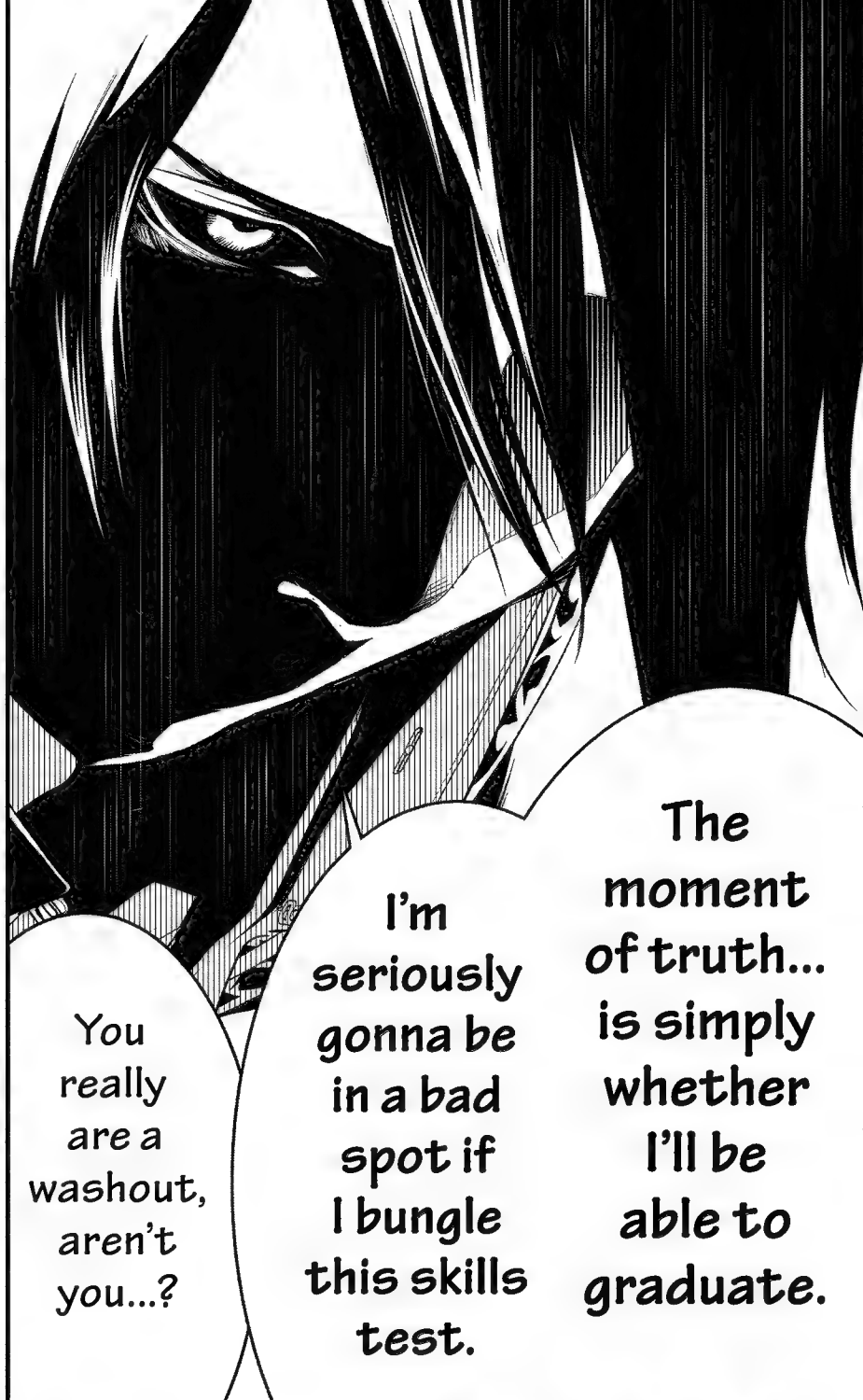
So your
abilities,
your very
worth,
will face a
moment of
truth?!

...IT'S
NOT THAT
DRAMATIC!



...I'd
honestly
be happier
if you just
called me
stupid.

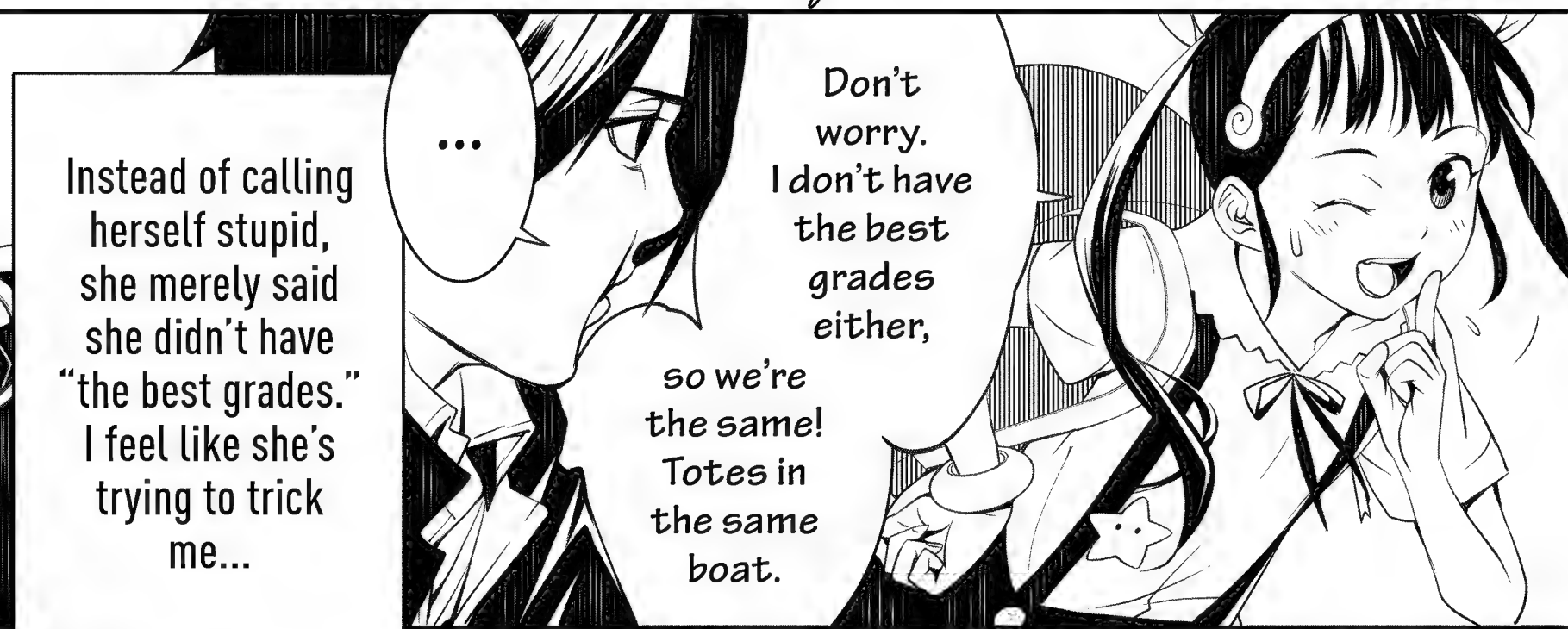
Well,
your mental
difficulties
are rather
outstanding.



You
really
are a
washout,
aren't
you...?

I'm
seriously
gonna be
in a bad
spot if
I bungle
this skills
test.

The
moment
of truth...
is simply
whether
I'll be
able to
graduate.



Instead of calling
herself stupid,
she merely said
she didn't have
"the best grades."
I feel like she's
trying to trick
me...

...

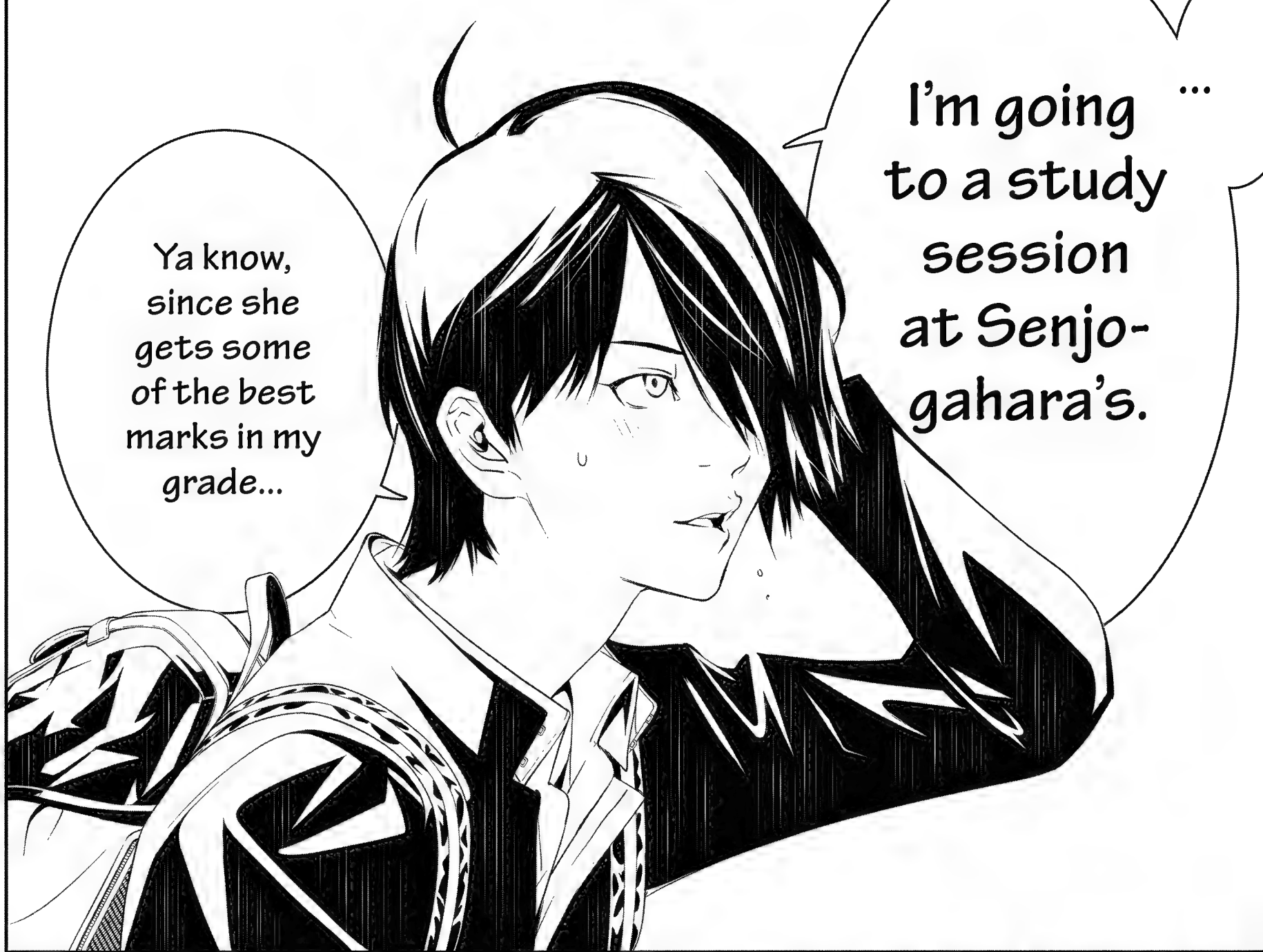
Don't
worry.
I don't have
the best
grades
either,

so we're
the same!
Totes in
the same
boat.



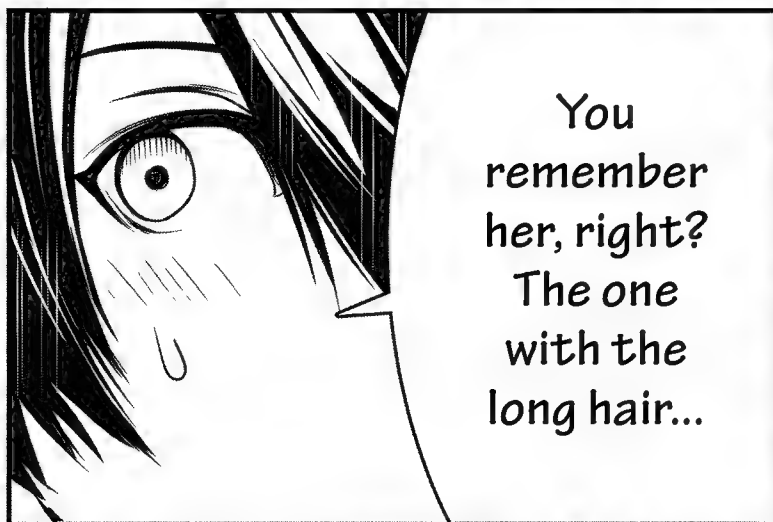
that you're
going to study
at the library
or a cram
school... or
something?

So
you're
saying



Ya know,
since she
gets some
of the best
marks in my
grade...

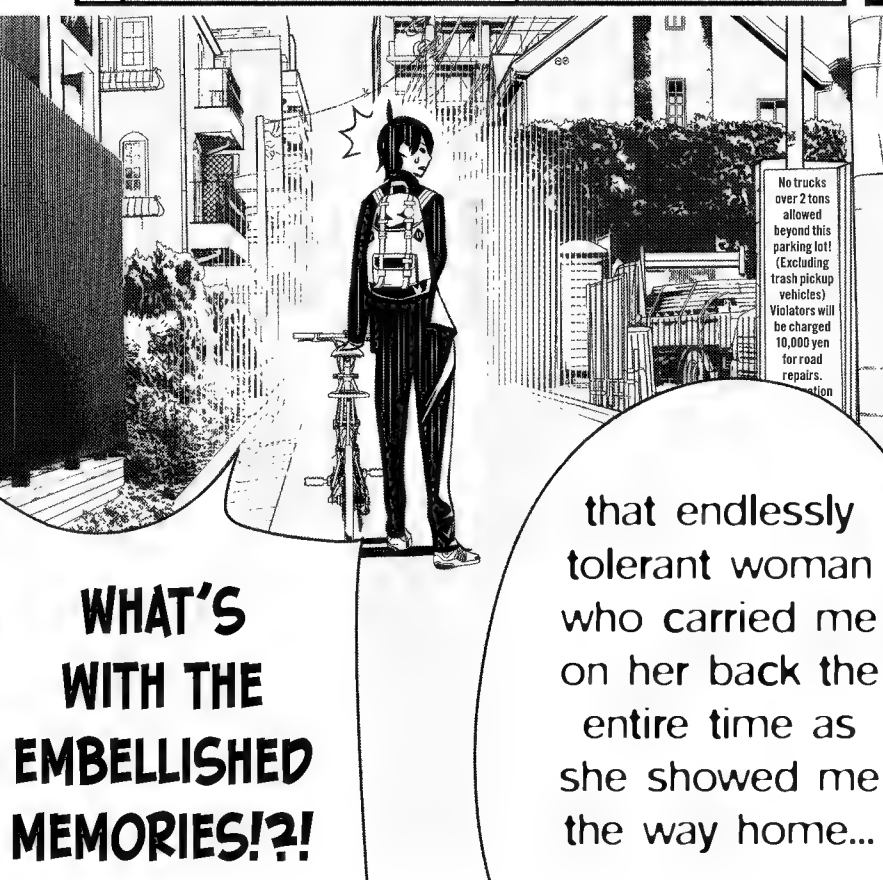
I'm going ...
to a study
session
at Senjo-
gahara's.



You
remember
her, right?
The one
with the
long hair...

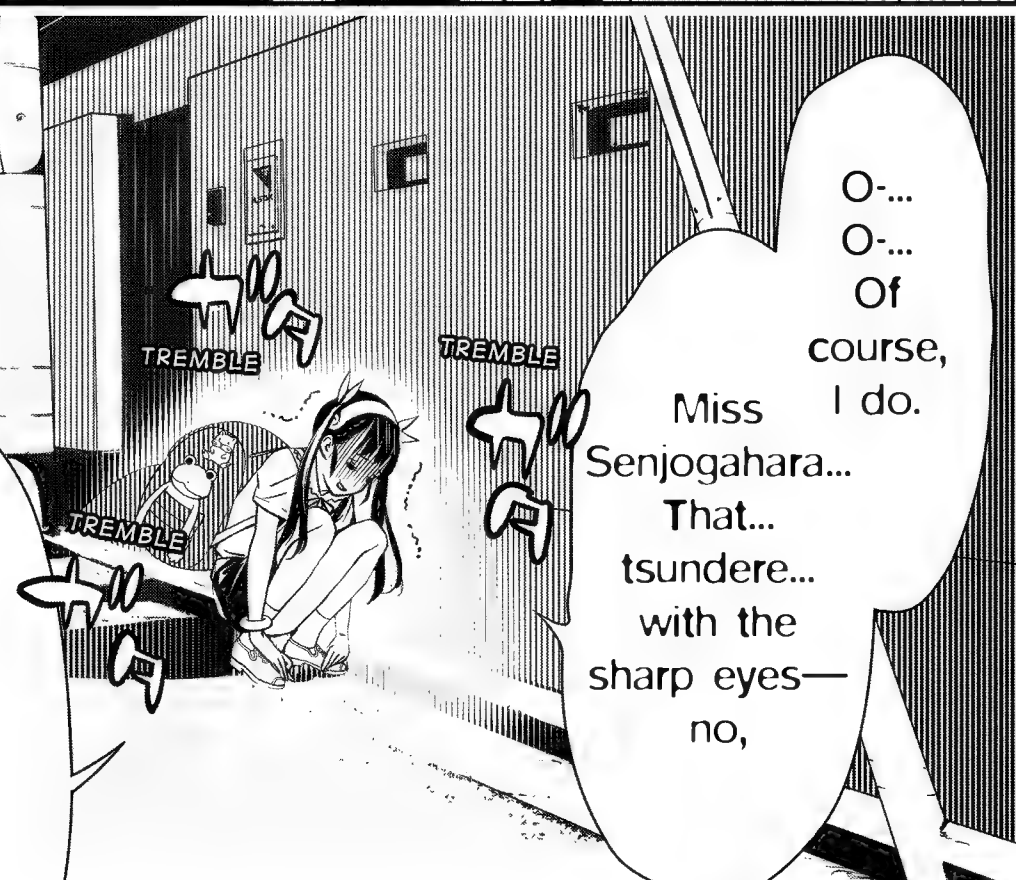


A study
session
?!?



**WHAT'S
WITH THE
EMBELLISHED
MEMORIES!?!**

that endlessly
tolerant woman
who carried me
on her back the
entire time as
she showed me
the way home...



O-...
O-...
Of
course,
I do.
Miss
Senjogahara...
That...
tsundere...
with the
sharp eyes—
no,

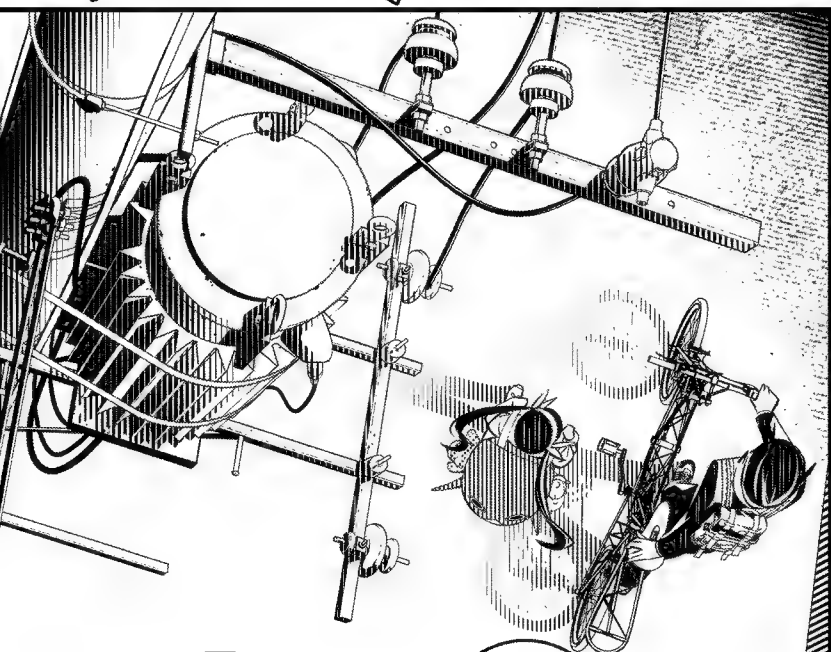
YOU'VE
ENTERED
INTO A
LOVERS'
CON-
TRACT!

THAT'S
THE WORST
WAY TO
PHRASE
IT!!!

Oh...?
But...
That's right!
If I'm not
mistaken,
you and Miss
Senjogahara are...
well, how do I
put it...?

Whew.

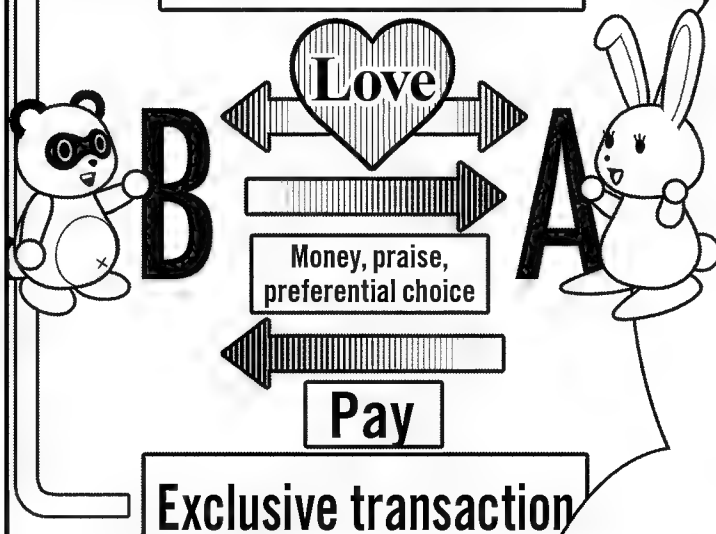
WOBB



So,
in other
words,
aren't your
studies no
more than a
pretext

Hmm...
But
wait,
Mister
Araragi.

Transaction Flow



In that
case,
how
about
"trans-
action"
instead?

THAT
SOUNDS
EVEN
WORSE!!

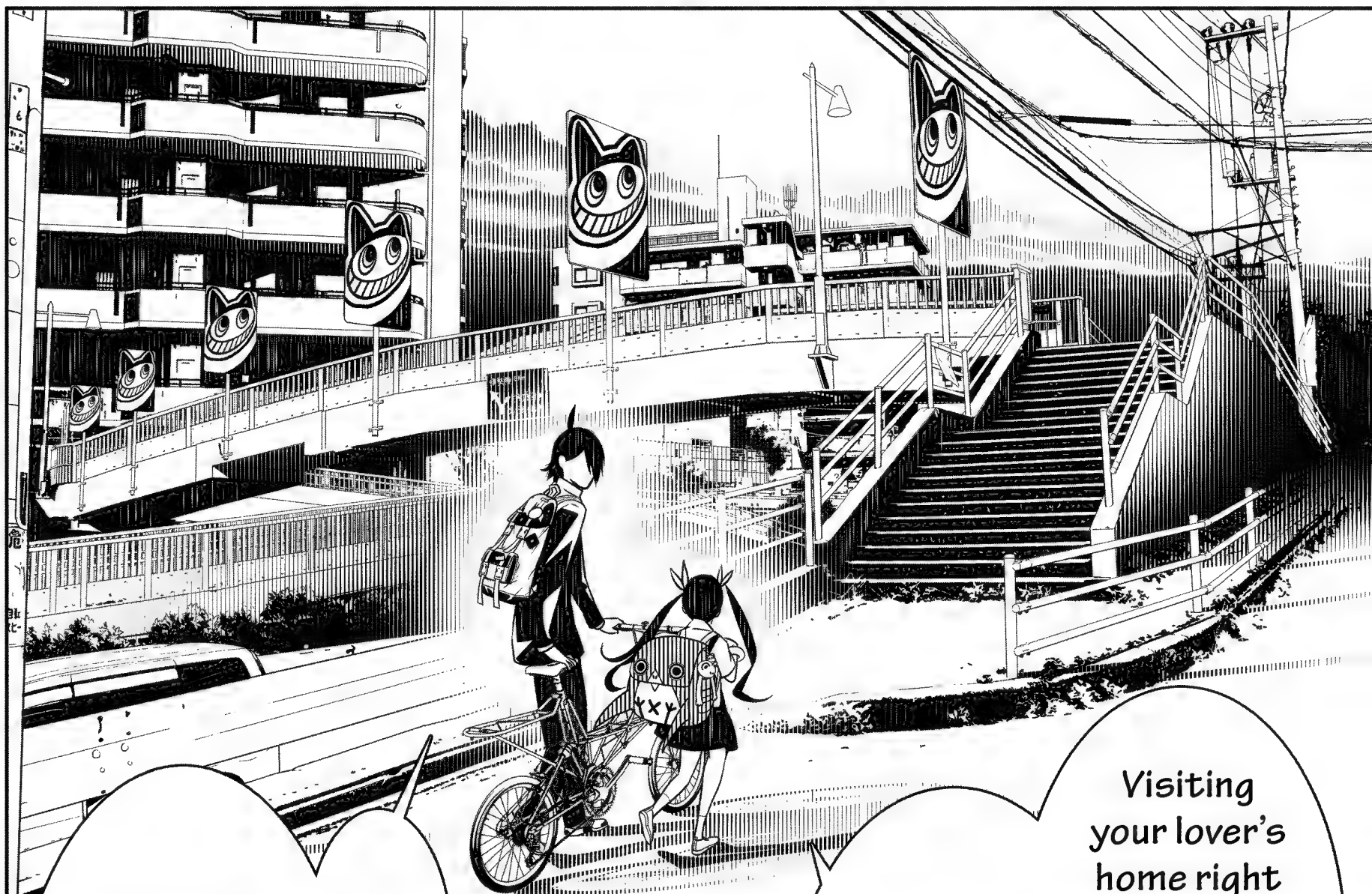
A
LOVERS'
TRANS-
ACTION.

There's
something
way off
about her
vocabulary.

And what is she
doing with her
fingers....?

Ca-
ress-
es...?

for
you to
end up
trading
caress-
es?



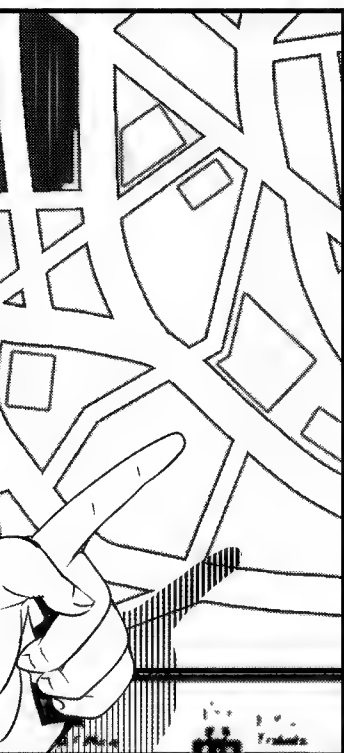
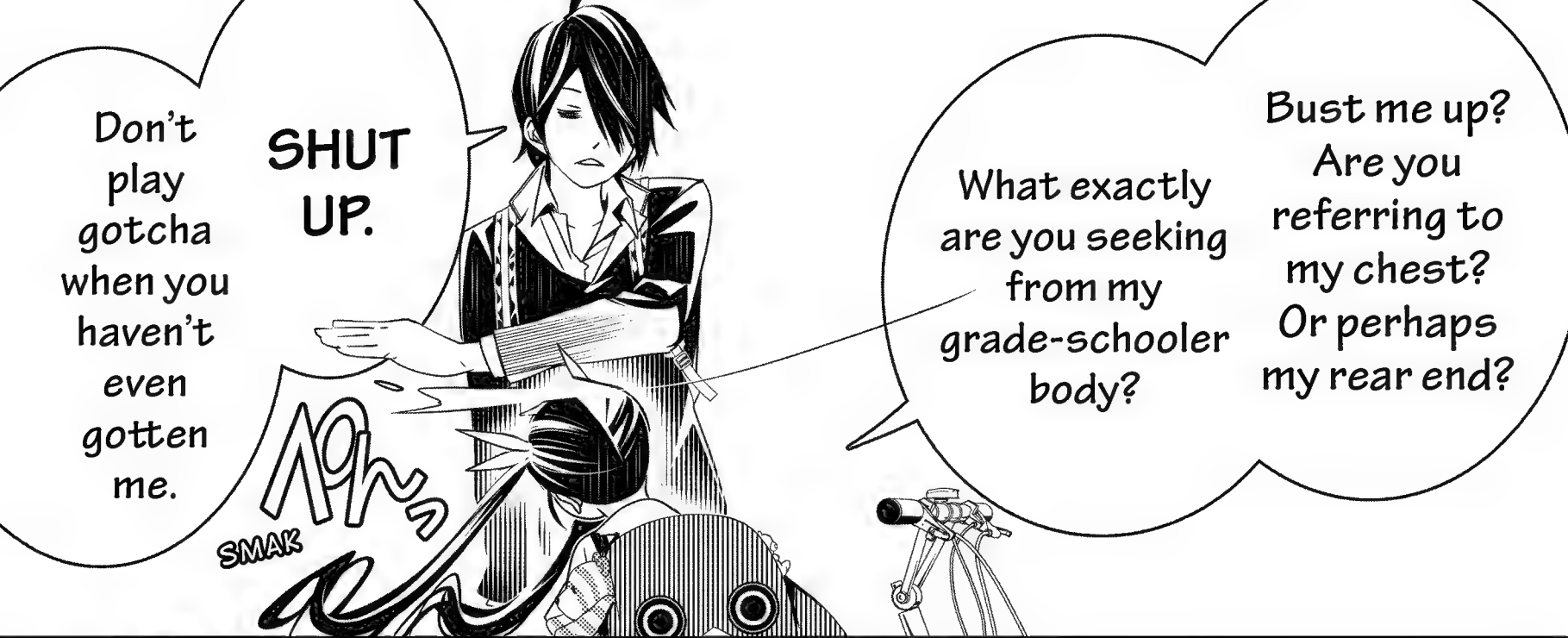
I'm getting
the feeling
that I'm
gonna have
to bust you
up sooner or
later.

...

It seems
that this
grade
schooler
thinks I'm
a pretty big
idiot.

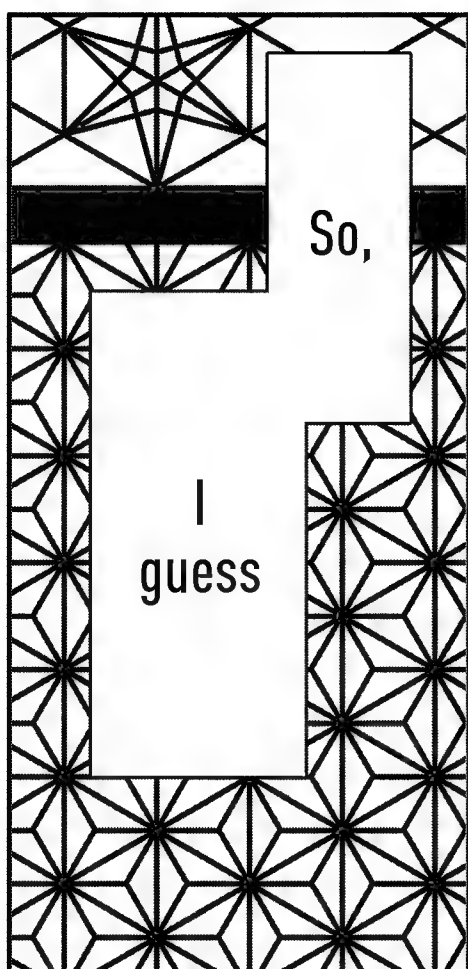
is nothing
short of
suicidal,
is it not?

Visiting
your lover's
home right
before a skills
test that will
ascertain
if you can
graduate





**SO
IF
YOU
SEE
ME,
PLEASE
DO
SPEAK
TO
ME.**



So,

I
guess

Those
words
came
from
her,
of all
people.

Hachikuji
really
said
that.

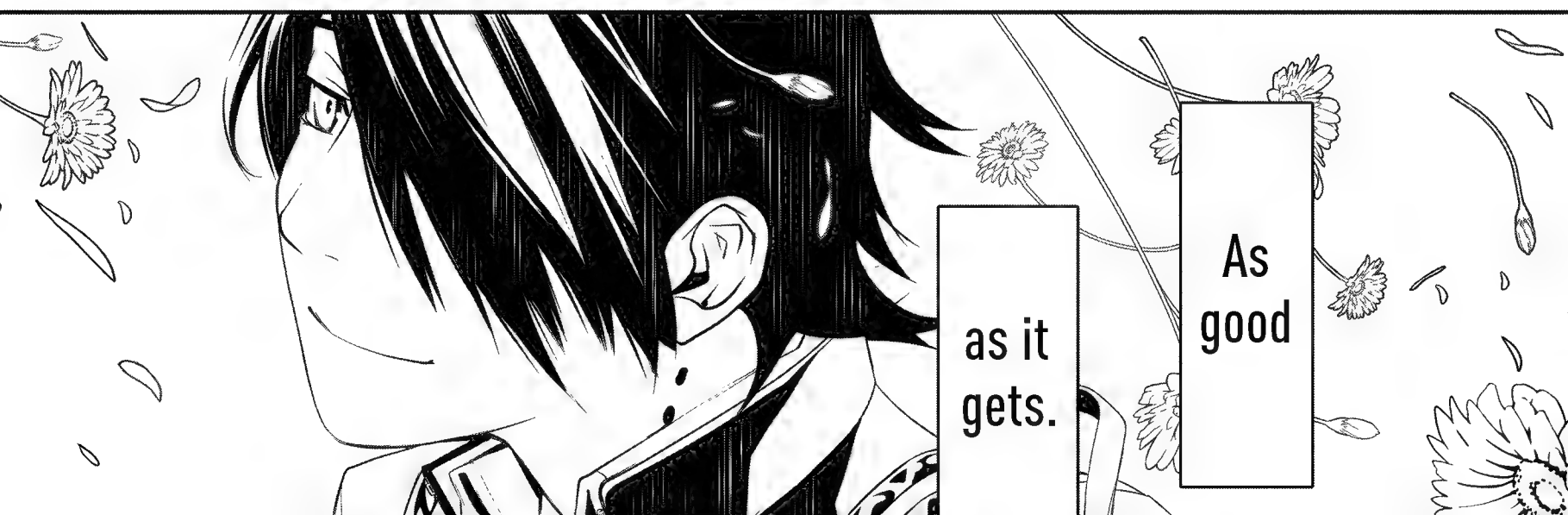


this
must
be

quite
the
won-
derful
story.

Re-
zoning
Ahead

Thank you
for your
cooperation



as it
gets.

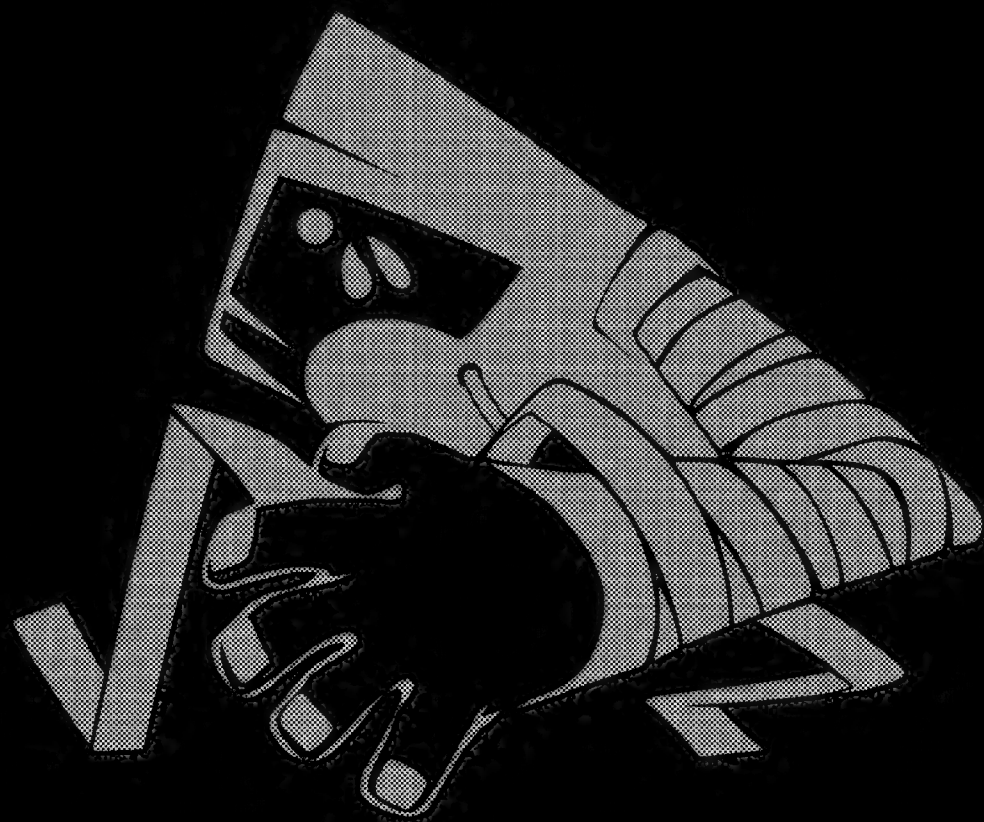
As
good



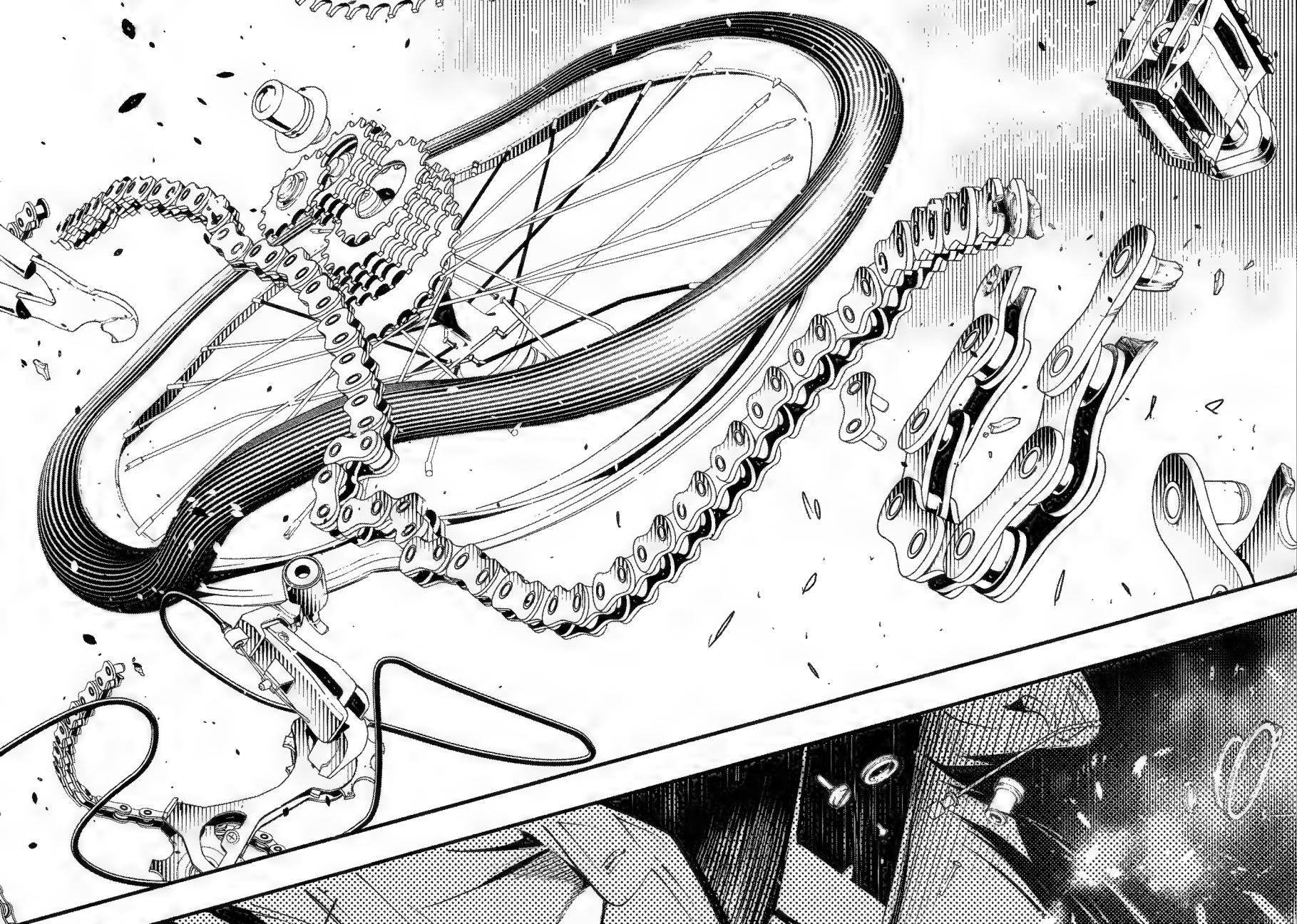




BAKEMONOGATARI



03: Suruga Monkey





know what
this is...!



...
was
close
...!!

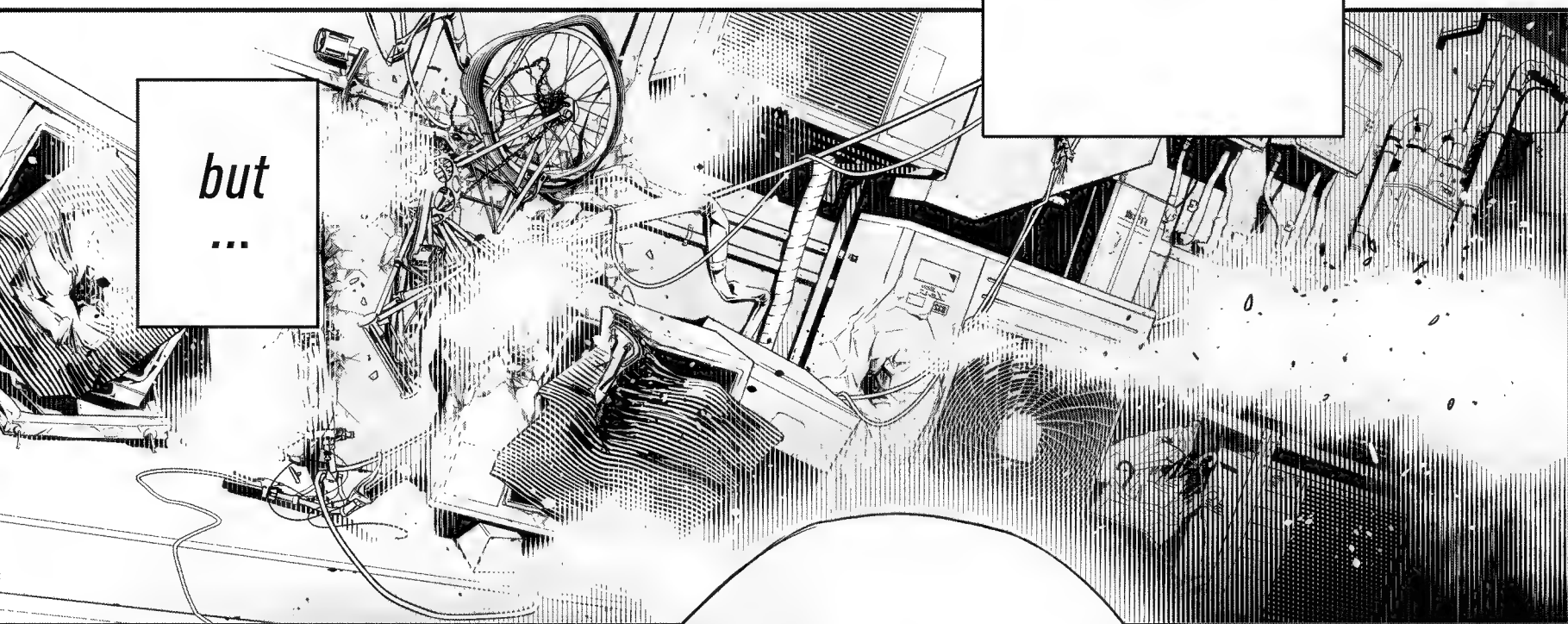
I...

...
That
...



Er, never
mind.
I don't have
a clue.

I don't even
know why
I'm being
attacked...



but
...

I
encountered
this feeling

again
and
again
....!!!

On
"spring
break,"





ABERRATION.

ABERRATION.

ABERRATION.

ABERRATION.



There's
a maze
of alleys
behind
me.

Can I
flee
...?

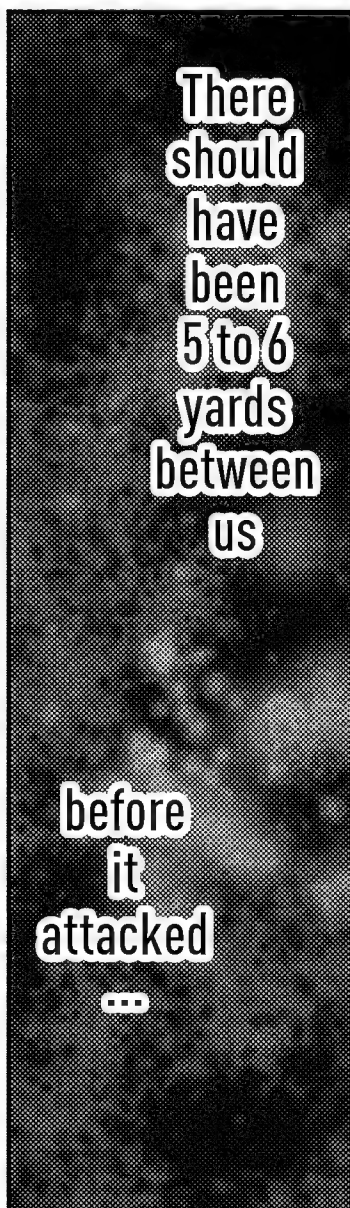
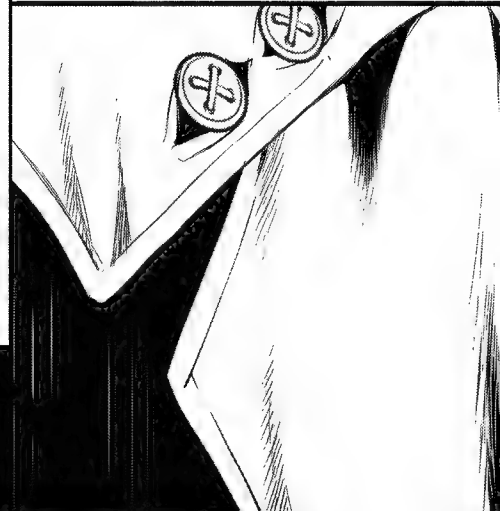
so
I'm used
to this.

I, too,
have some
experience
under my
belt...



No
...

I can't.



There
should
have
been
5 to 6
yards
between
us

before
it
attacked
...



*I don't have
the courage
to turn my
back on this
thing...!*



TREMBLE

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

SHFF



*and
it just so
happened
to miss
me.*

but
I didn't
see it
...
at all.

*Though
my dear,
precious
bike was
forever lost
in my
place...*

I thought
I was
done for
and leapt
out of the
way,



is
impos-
sible...



Escaping
from its
absurdly
strong legs

PA-
KRAK

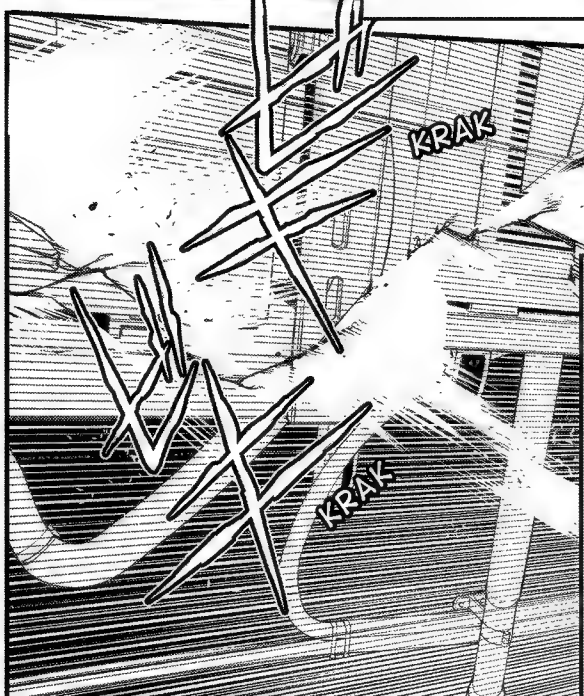


WHOA!

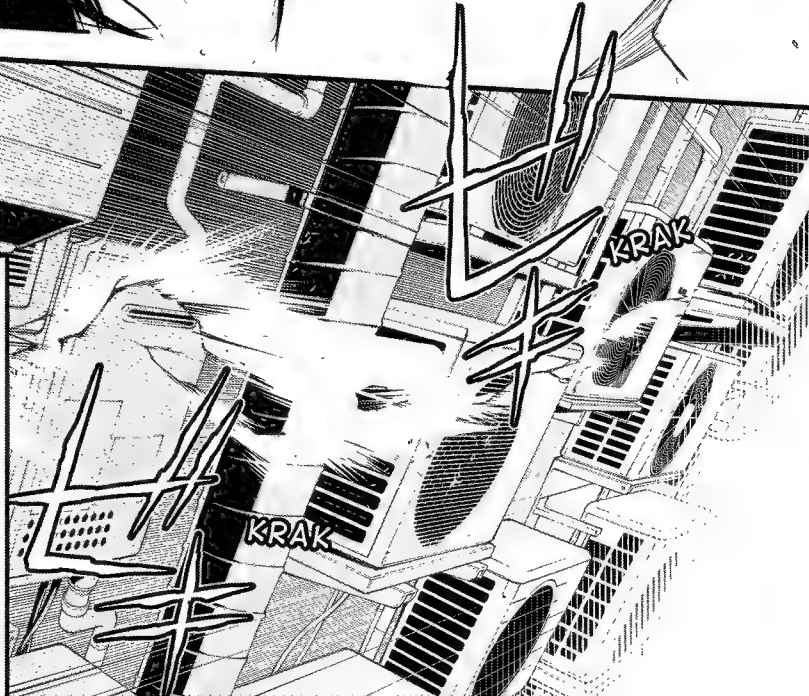


my
previous
state-
ment.

I
retract



Not
to
this.



I'm
not
used
to
it.



GRRRKK

Now's
my
chance
!

!!

BAM

KREAK

GNNK

KRRCH



ZHMM

THWAK

I don't ...

understand...

THWAK

THWAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRAASH



None
of this.

This
wick-
ed
pow-
er.

These
un-
godly
abili-
ties.



this is
some-
thing
I can
fathom
...

but
still.

Compared
to Kiss-Shot
Acerola-Orion
Heart-Under-
Blade's
nonsensical
power,

On
spring
break,
I
saw the
King of
Aberra-
tions.



Meeting
Oshino,
a vampire,
a crab, and
a snail

has
taught
me one
thing

...

KLOMP

KLOMP

KLOMP

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

DRIBB

GRRT

Haah

Haah

“There
is a
reason
for
every
aberra-
tion.”

Which
means
there's
a logical
reason why
this thing's
attacking
me...!

There
should be,
I think...
But I have
no idea
what it is.

SLIP

BSHH

ZHK

ZHK

ZHK

Haah

What
happened
today...?
Who did
I see?

What did I
talk about
...
and with
whom?!
Haa

Haa

Re-
mem-
ber...

Haah

GHURK

DRIBB

C'mon, think...!

One of them must have
a clue that'll get me out of
this alive...!!!

My
little
sisters.

Hachi-
kuji.

Senjo-
gahara.

Hane-
kawa.



Yup,
just
them.

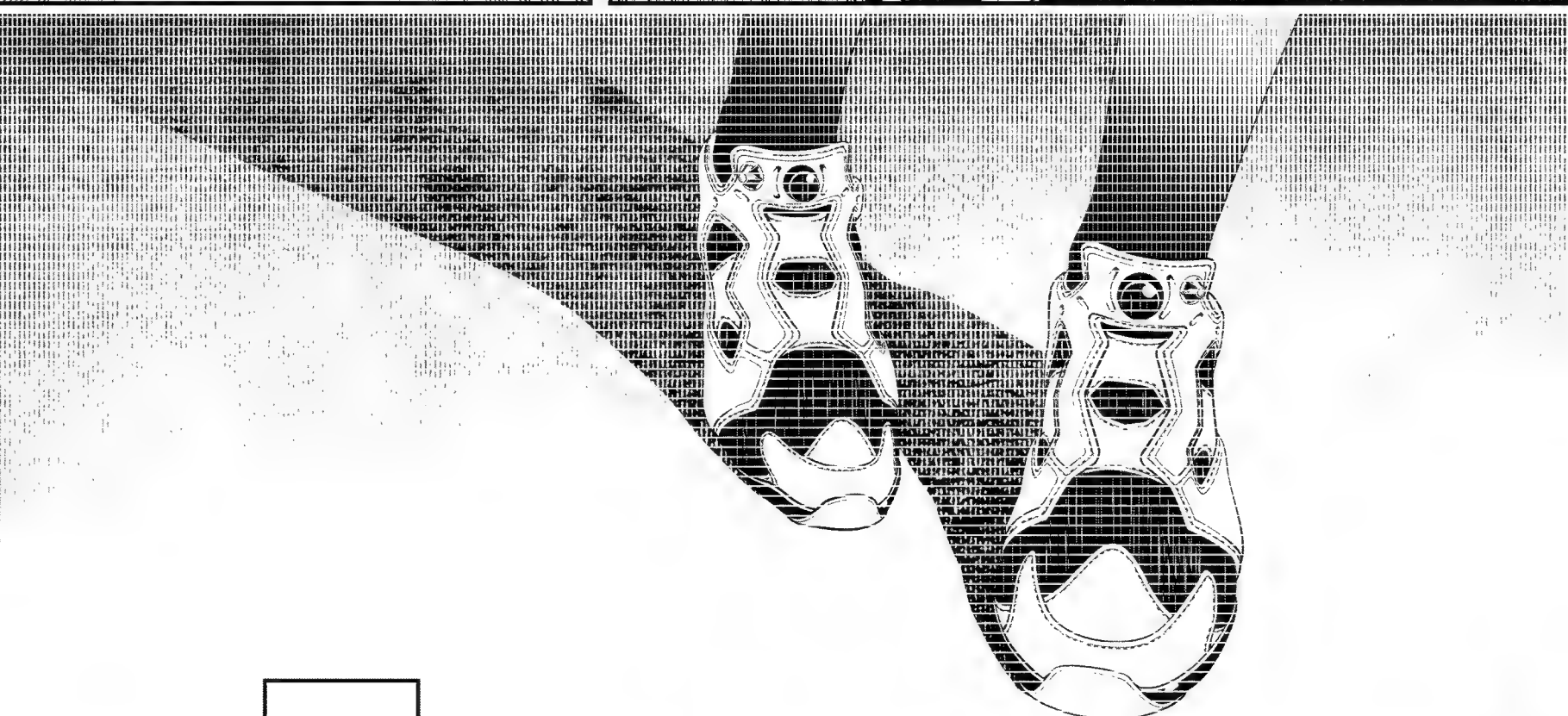
...

Nothing

...

out
of the
ordina...

Was
that
it?



There
was
one
more
...

...



Wait.

...



The one
I talked to
today is
none other
than...

One
more
per-
son.

Hello
there,
my
senior
Ara-
ragi.



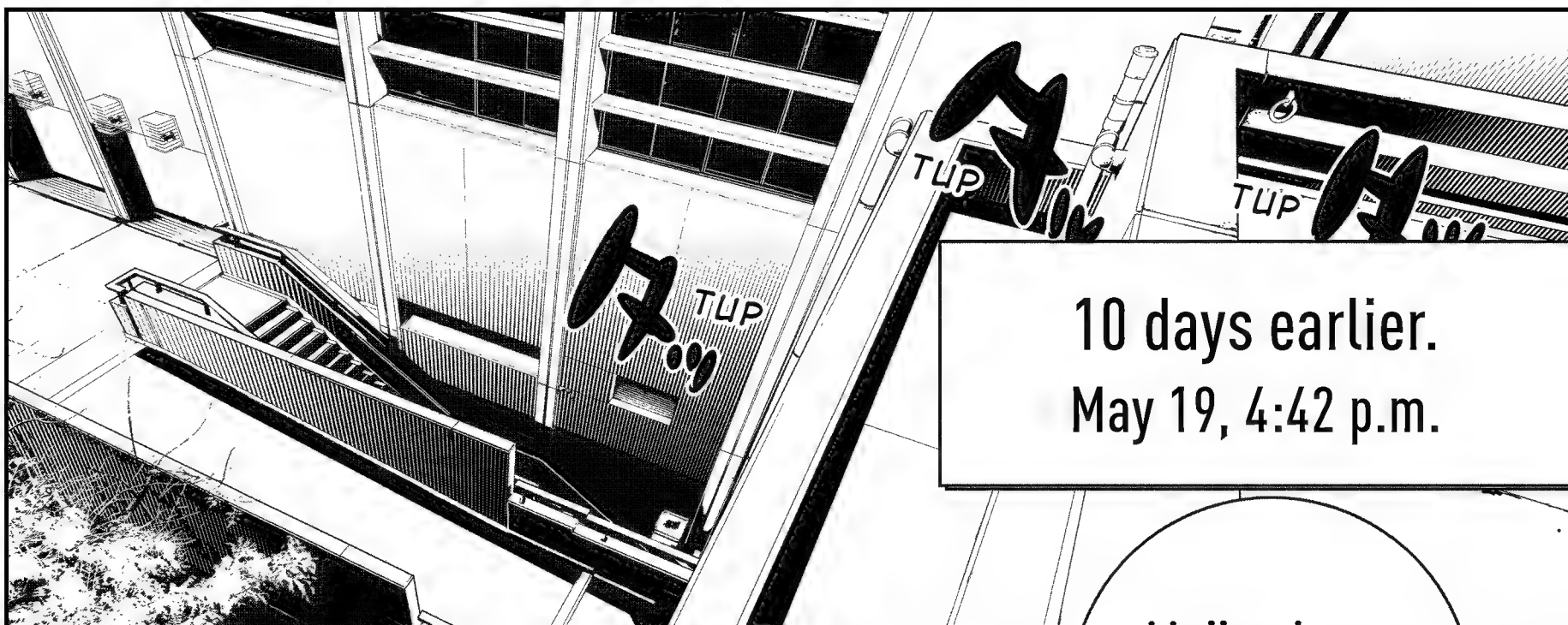
What
a
coinci-
dence.

It
looks
like



about
Suruga
Kanbaru.

I
have
to
talk



10 days earlier.
May 19, 4:42 p.m.



What a
coincidence.

Hello there,
my senior
Araragi.



**YOU
CLEARLY
SPRINTED
RIGHT TO
ME!!**

**I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF
SUCH A
CONTRIVED
COINCIDENCE!**



...
What
is it
...?!

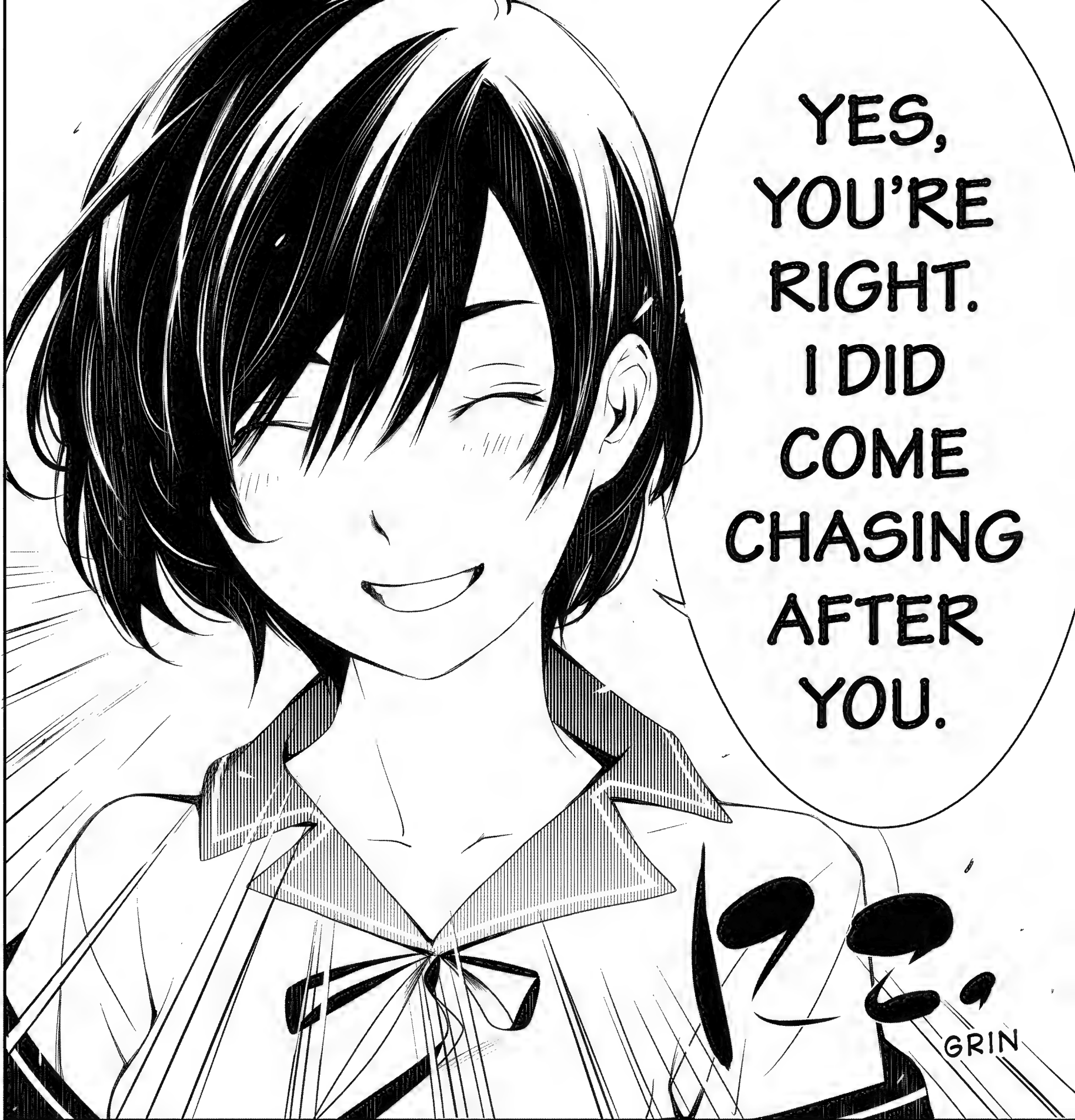


"I've never
heard of such
a contrived
coincidence"—

A perfect
line for the
occasion.
That's
what I call
razor wit. I
should have
expected as
much from
you.

Oh,
nothing.
I was just
engraving
your words
deep in my
heart so I'd
never forget
them.





mega-celebrity
and star of
the basketball
team,

The
school's

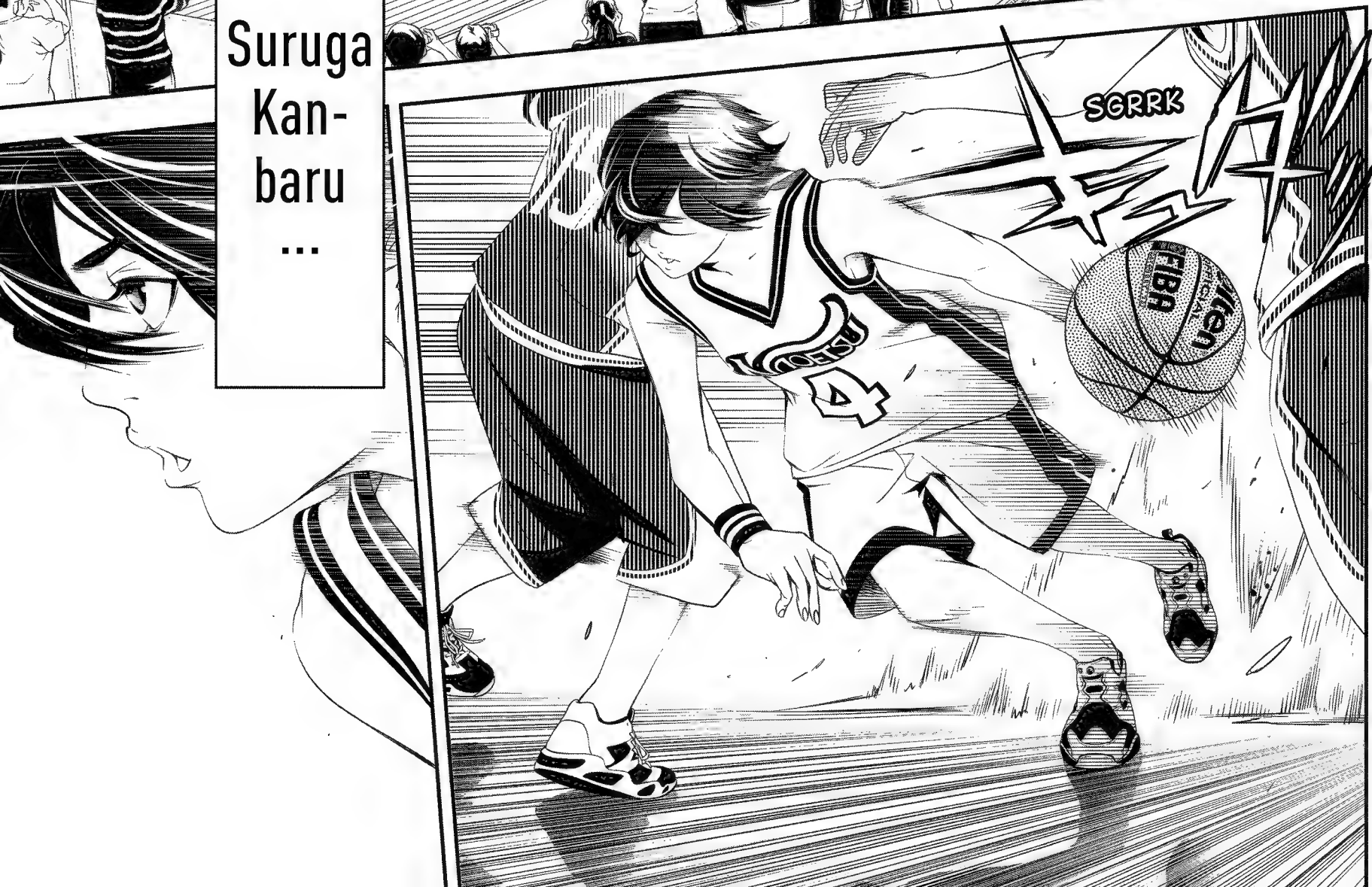
I know...



Suruga Kanbaru,
was stalking me.



Suruga
Kan-
baru
...





BAKEMONOGATARI

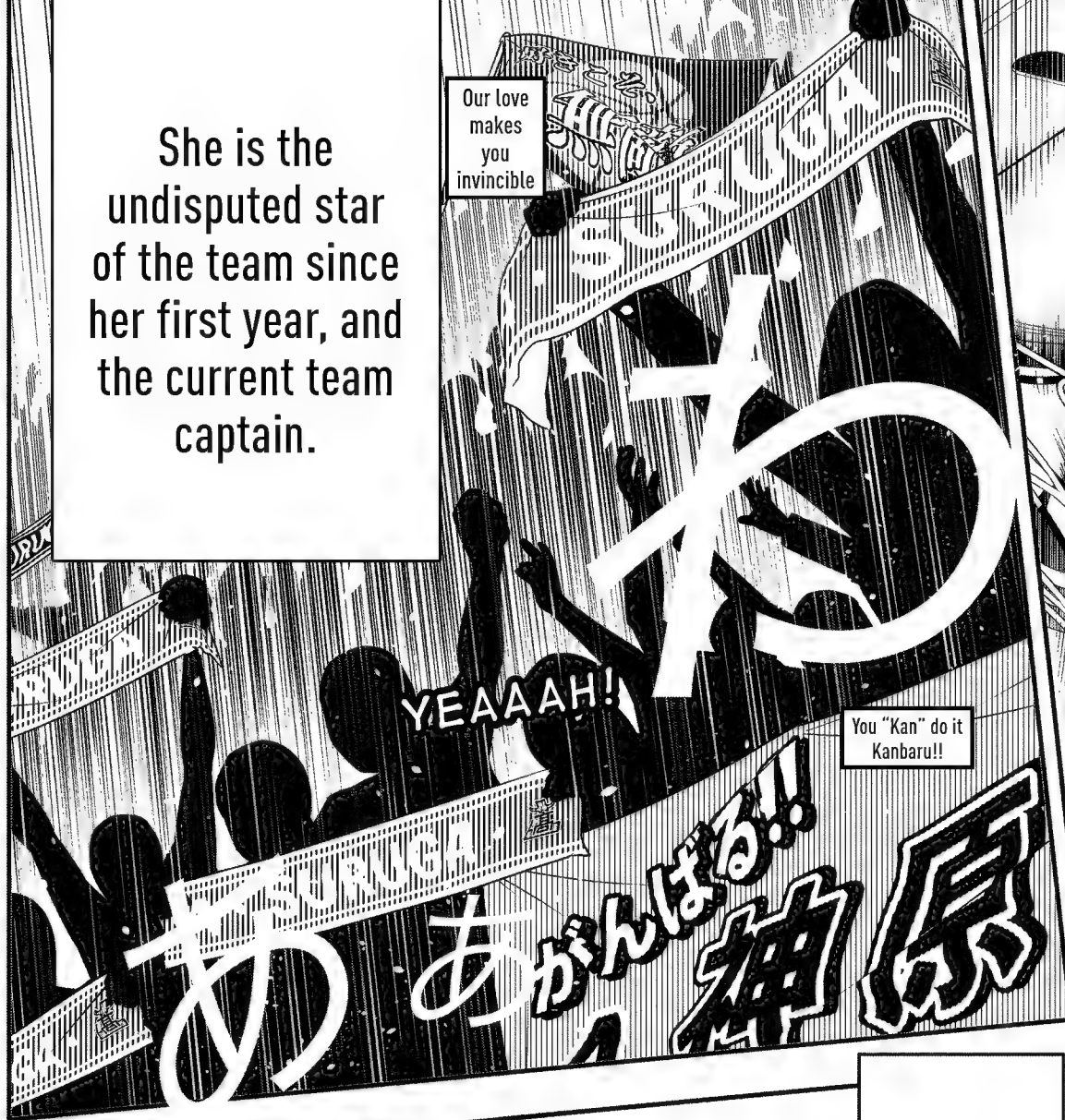
can
fly.

She is the undisputed star of the team since her first year, and the current team captain.

Our love makes you invincible

YEAAA!!

You "Kan" do it Kanbaru!!



No more...

We weren't so good when it comes to athletics.

Since Naoetsu High is a prep school,



SLAM

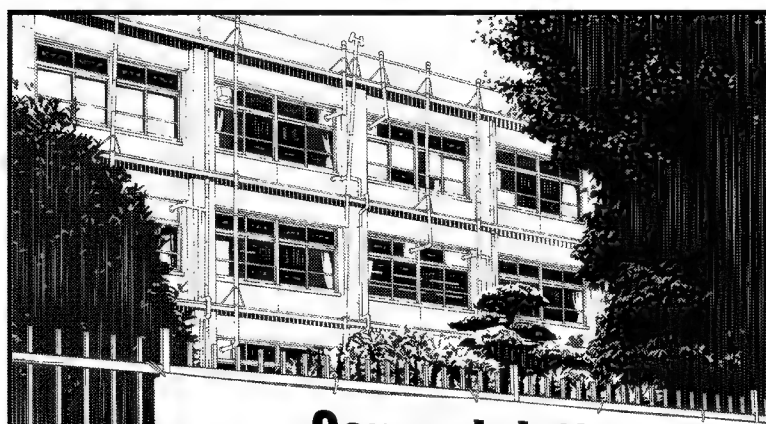
But Kanbaru took our weak little basketball team and turned it into a national powerhouse ...

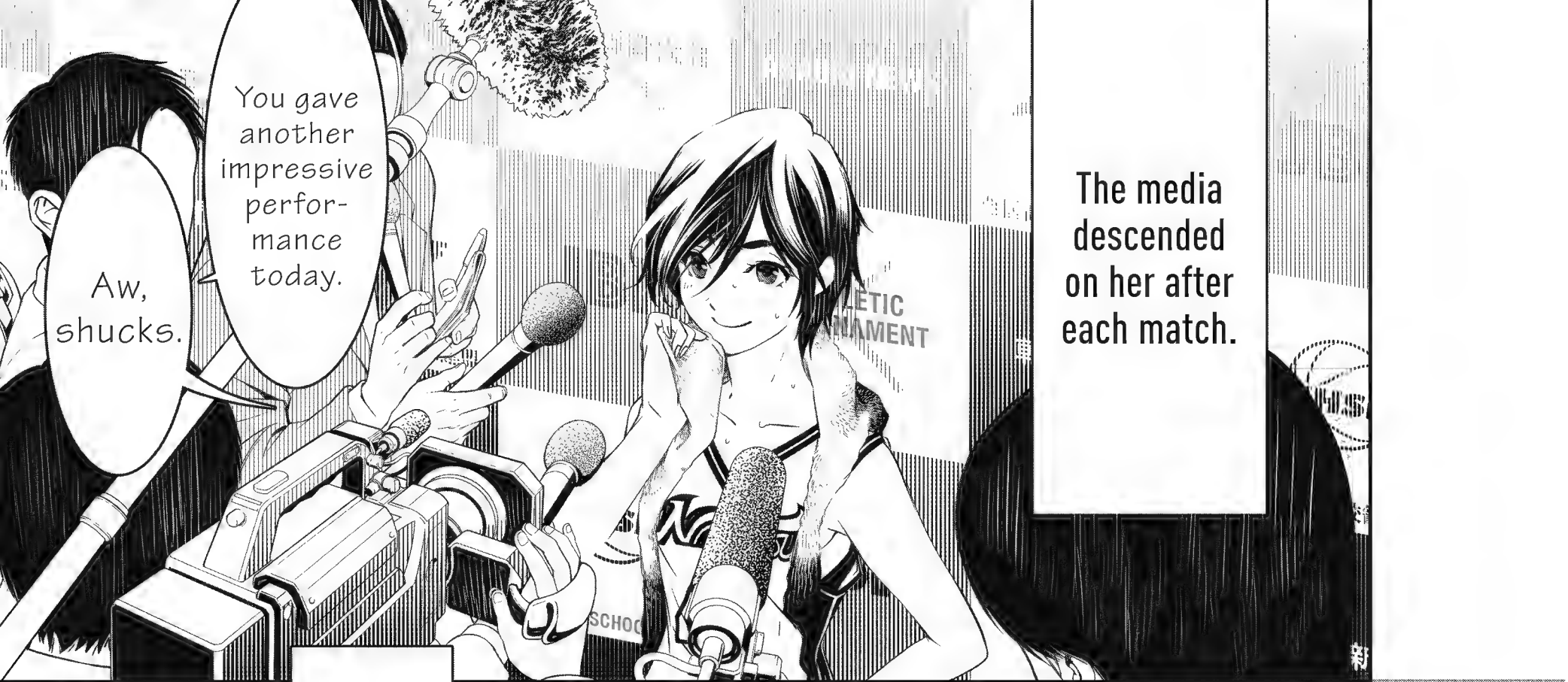
Congratulations!
National Tournament Appearance

all on her own.

Girls' Basketball Team

Naoetsu High School Student Council





Aw, shucks.

You gave another impressive performance today.

The media descended on her after each match.

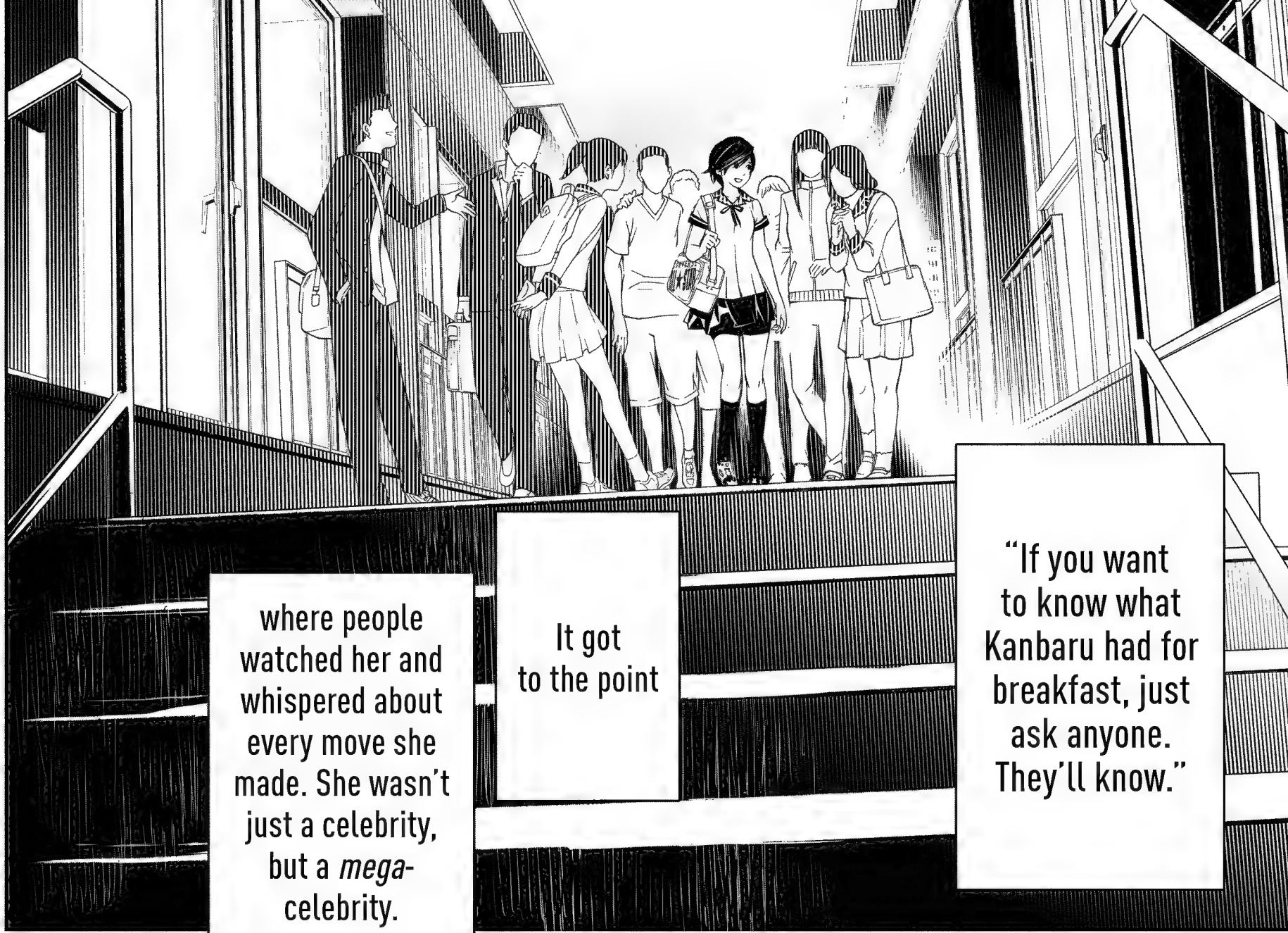
And most of all,

she has a cheerful personality that no one can hate.

Sure, the position and the role I play means that I stand out, but this is all thanks to everyone else.

Basketball isn't a forgiving sport where you can count on any single person to win the game.

The endless praise I get should be shared by the whole team.



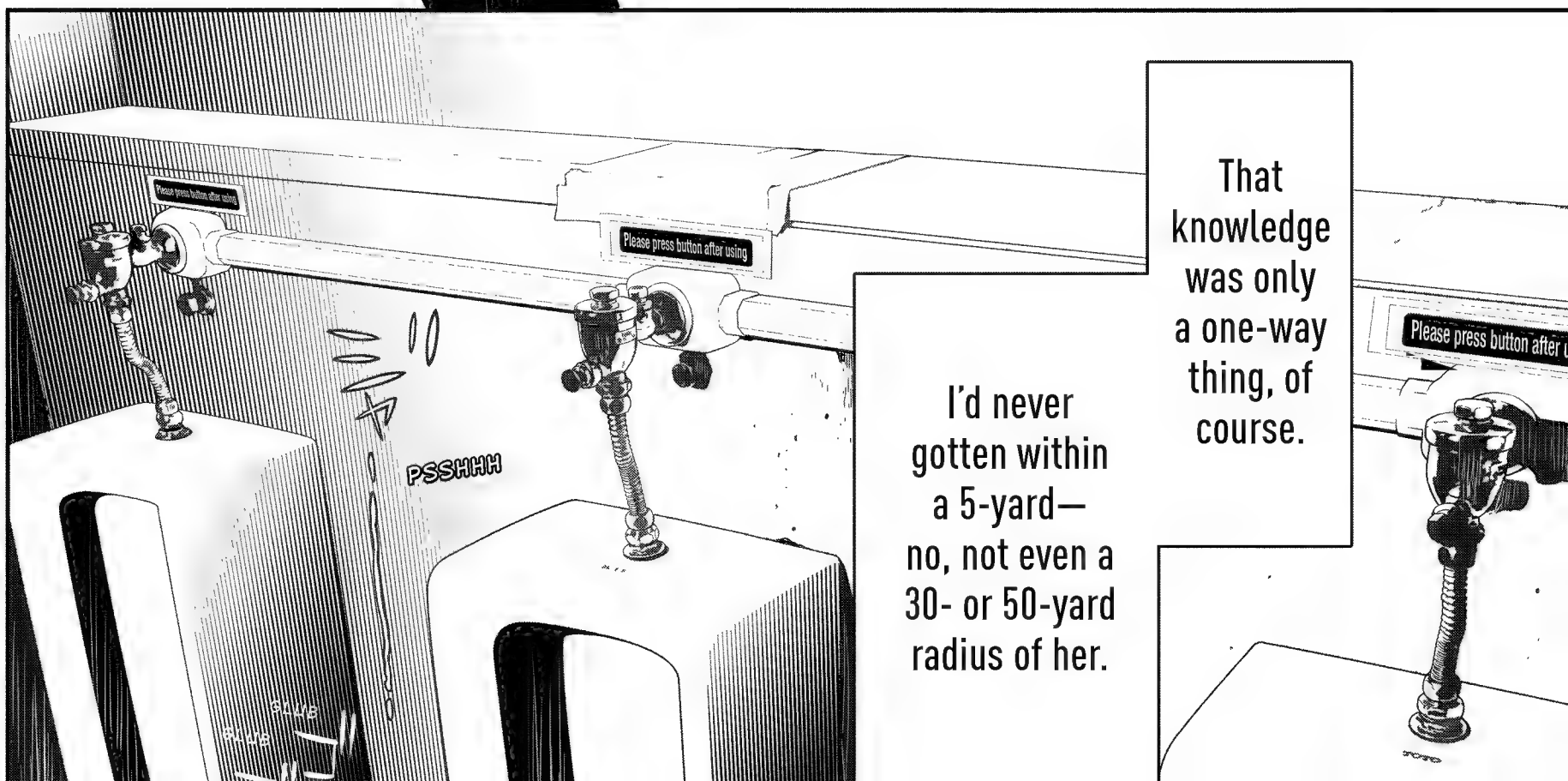
where people
watched her and
whispered about
every move she
made. She wasn't
just a celebrity,
but a *mega-*
celebrity.

It got
to the point

"If you want
to know what
Kanbaru had for
breakfast, just
ask anyone.
They'll know."



Even though I
stayed far away
from gossip, I
knew a lot about
this girl one grade
below me.



That
knowledge
was only
a one-way
thing, of
course.

I'd never
gotten within
a 5-yard—
no, not even a
30- or 50-yard
radius of her.



She and
I were
entirely
different
types of
people.

She and
I lived in
entirely
different
worlds.

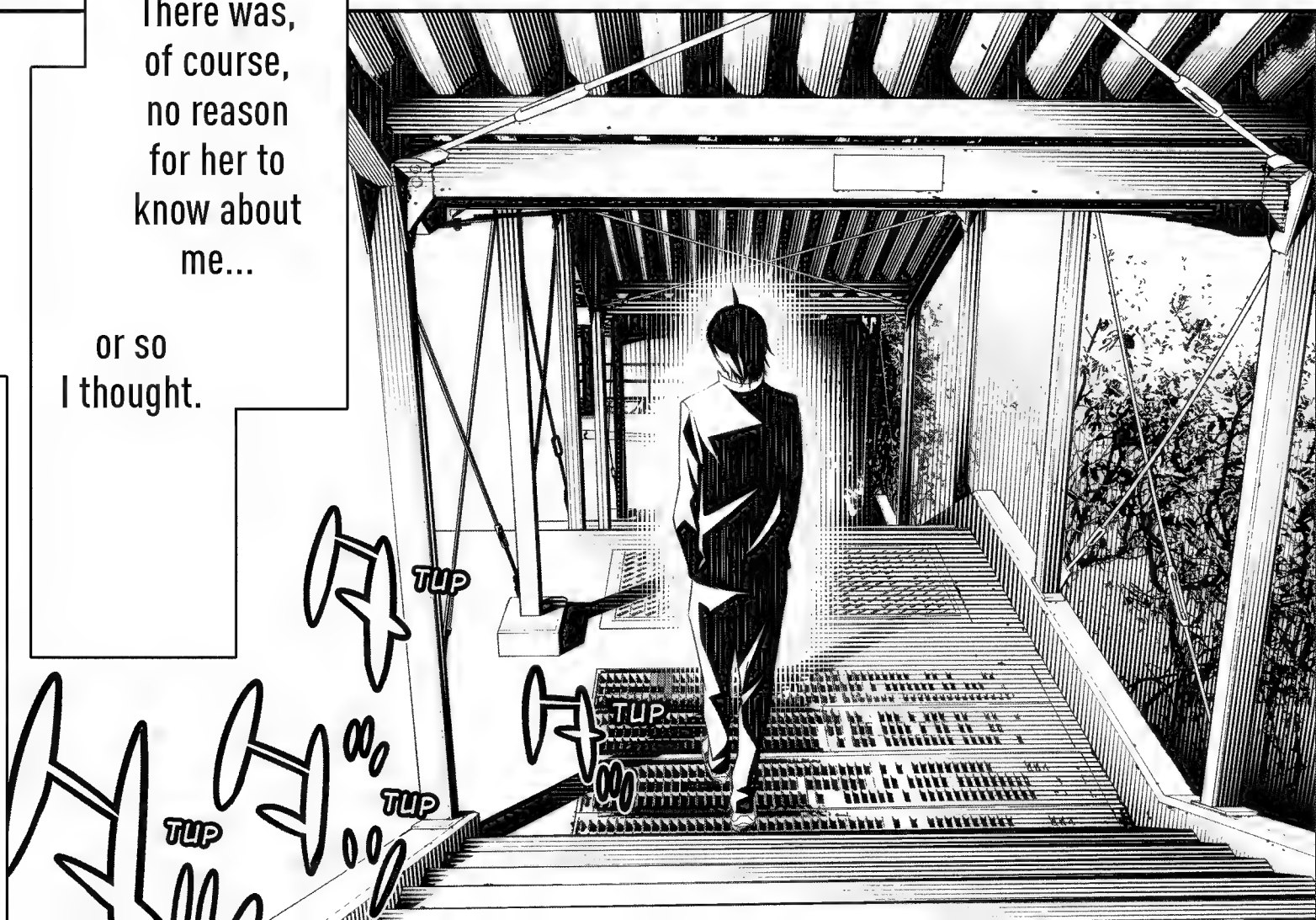
*If I grow my
hair down to
here, maybe my
summer uniform
can hide my
wound...*



There was,
of course,
no reason
for her to
know about
me...

or so
I thought.

That
was
what I'd
assumed.







If it
isn't my
senior
Araragi.

Hello
there.
What a
coinci-
dence.



The
stalking
started
there—
then came
May 19.

Ha ha ha.
Yes, you're
right.

I'VE
NEVER
HEARD OF
SUCH
A
CON-
TRIVED
COINCI-
DENCE!

That
was on
May 16.

Kanbaru
started
talking
to me
out of
nowhere.

She spoke
as if we'd
always
been good
friends—
like
nothing
was off.



I
know
...

I did
come
chasing
after
you.



SO, ANYTHING
A FLEDGLING
LIKE ME TRIES
TO PULL IS
TRANSPARENT
TO SOMEONE OF
YOUR CALIBER,
I TAKE IT!
IT IS AWKWARD,
AND I COULDN'T
FEEL ANY MORE
EMBARRASSED,
BUT I AM DULY
IMPRESSED!!

HA HA
ははは

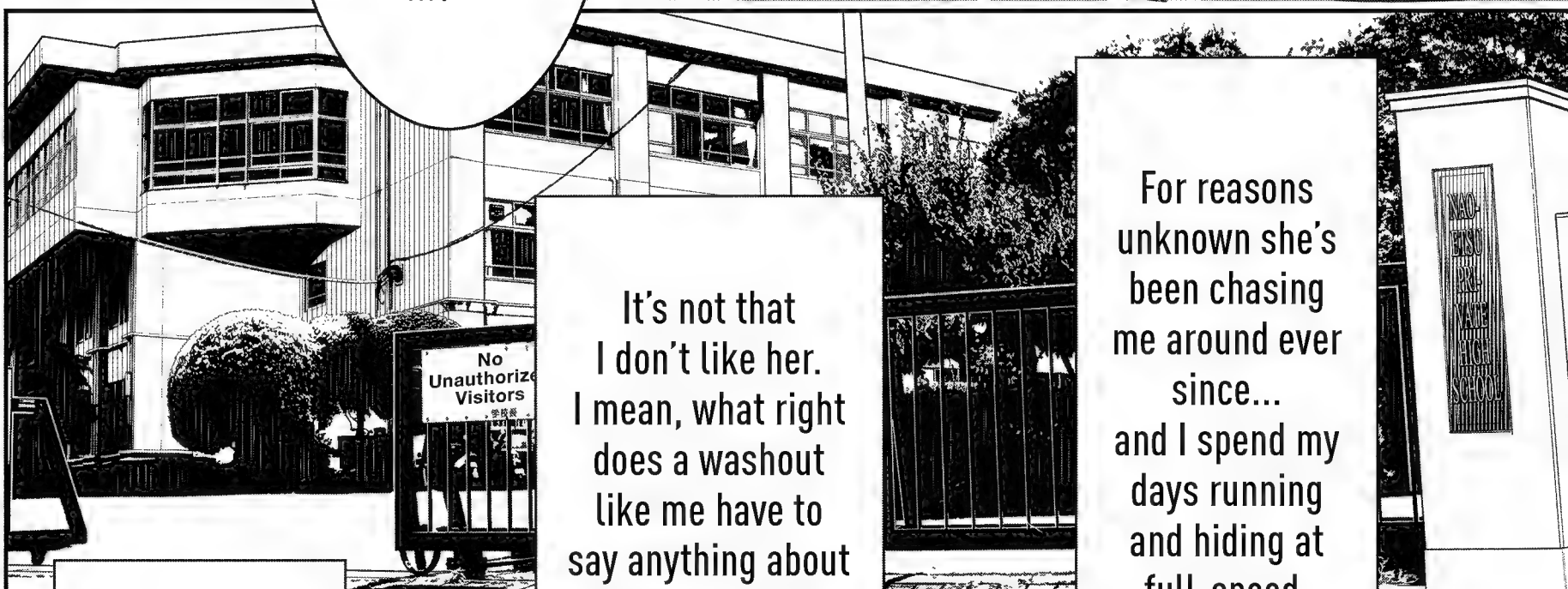
HA HA
ははは

AH, SO YOU
DID KNOW!
I SHOULD HAVE
EXPECTED THAT
MUCH FROM
A SENIOR
LIKE YOU,
ARARAGI.

God,
this is
awkward
...

Should
you
...
even
be here
...?

Don't you
have
...
practice
...?



It's not that
I don't like her.
I mean, what right
does a washout
like me have to
say anything about
the star of the
academy?

For reasons
unknown she's
been chasing
me around ever
since...
and I spend my
days running
and hiding at
full-speed.

Yes, it's that
I just don't
know how to
deal with this
stuff...plain
and simple.

**WHY, YOU'D
GIVE PHILIP
MARLOWE
A RUN FOR
HIS MONEY,
A BAREFOOT
RUN!**



**A-HA! SO
ASTUTE, AS I'VE
COME TO EXPECT!
YOU'RE LIKE THE
HERO OF A
DETECTIVE
STORY WHO
NEVER
MISSES THE
SLIGHTEST
DISCREP-
ANCY!**

I'd never want to read a novel with a protagonist capable of giving detectives a barefoot run for their money with observations that lame...

after all.

You're the captain of a national-level basketball team...

Anyone would think that.



My arm is like this now, so...

Mm. But see?



Right...

She sprained it during a workout or something...





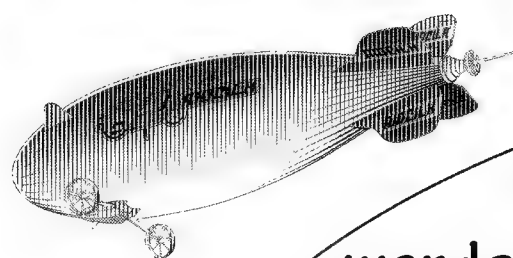
What
?

I am
?

You're
putting my
aptitude as
captain to
the test,
aren't you?



I know
what
you're
doing,
my dear
senior.



My senior, in recording your
words for future generations, the writer
better bold and underline them so their
impression is imparted to the readers.

The weight you invest in each word is overwhelming.
“It’s not what you say, but who says it”—they often mean
that in a negative sense, but you’re the one person who
gives it a positive spin. Please, relax. I don’t intend to
abandon my responsibilities as captain; I’m not so self-
absorbed as to be that negligent. I’m aware that
I have to live up to being our ace and made sure to issue
workout routines. If anything, they’re focusing on
practice with greater ease thanks to
my absence. When the devil’s away,
the mice will play.

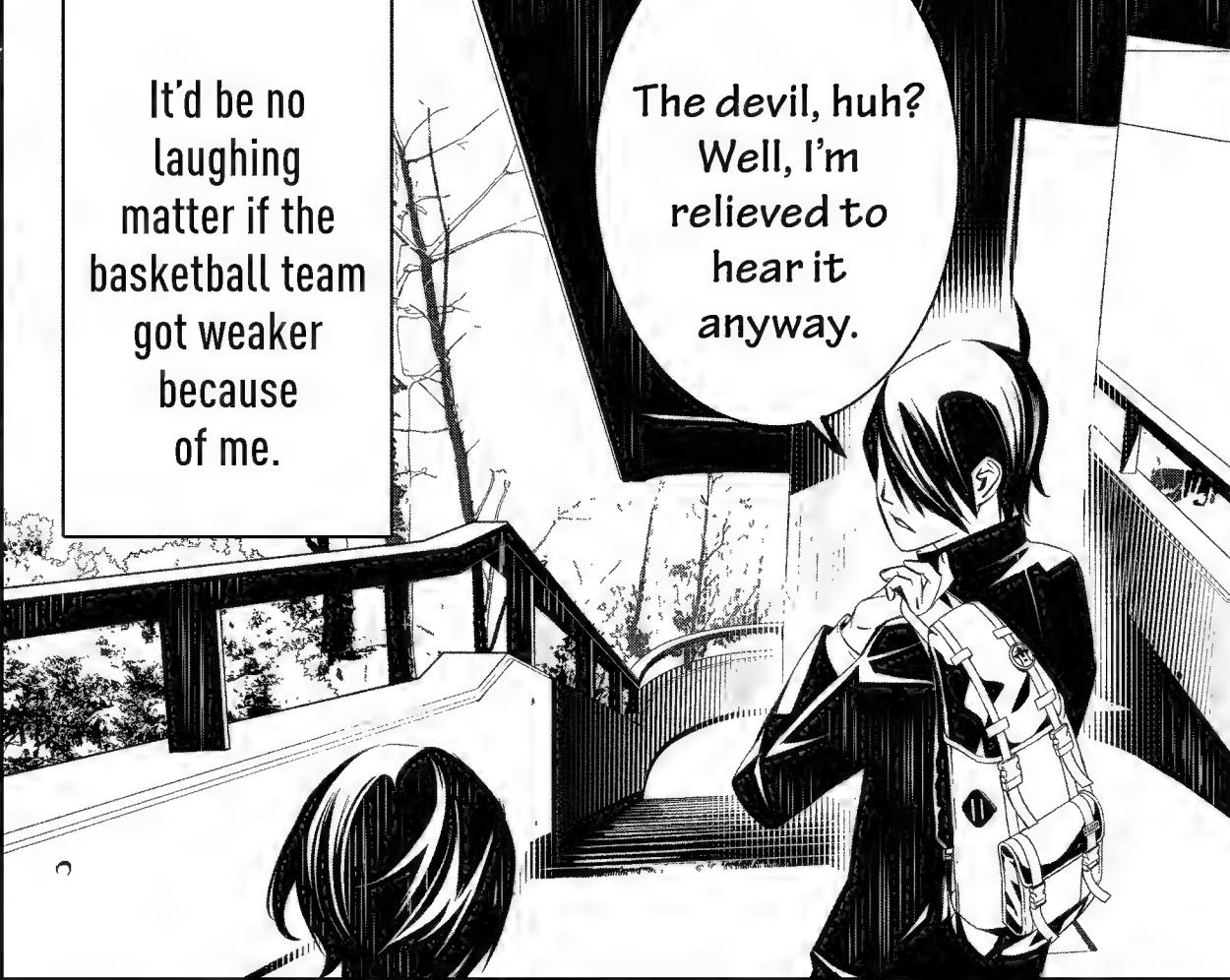
see ya.





It'd be no laughing matter if the basketball team got weaker because of me.

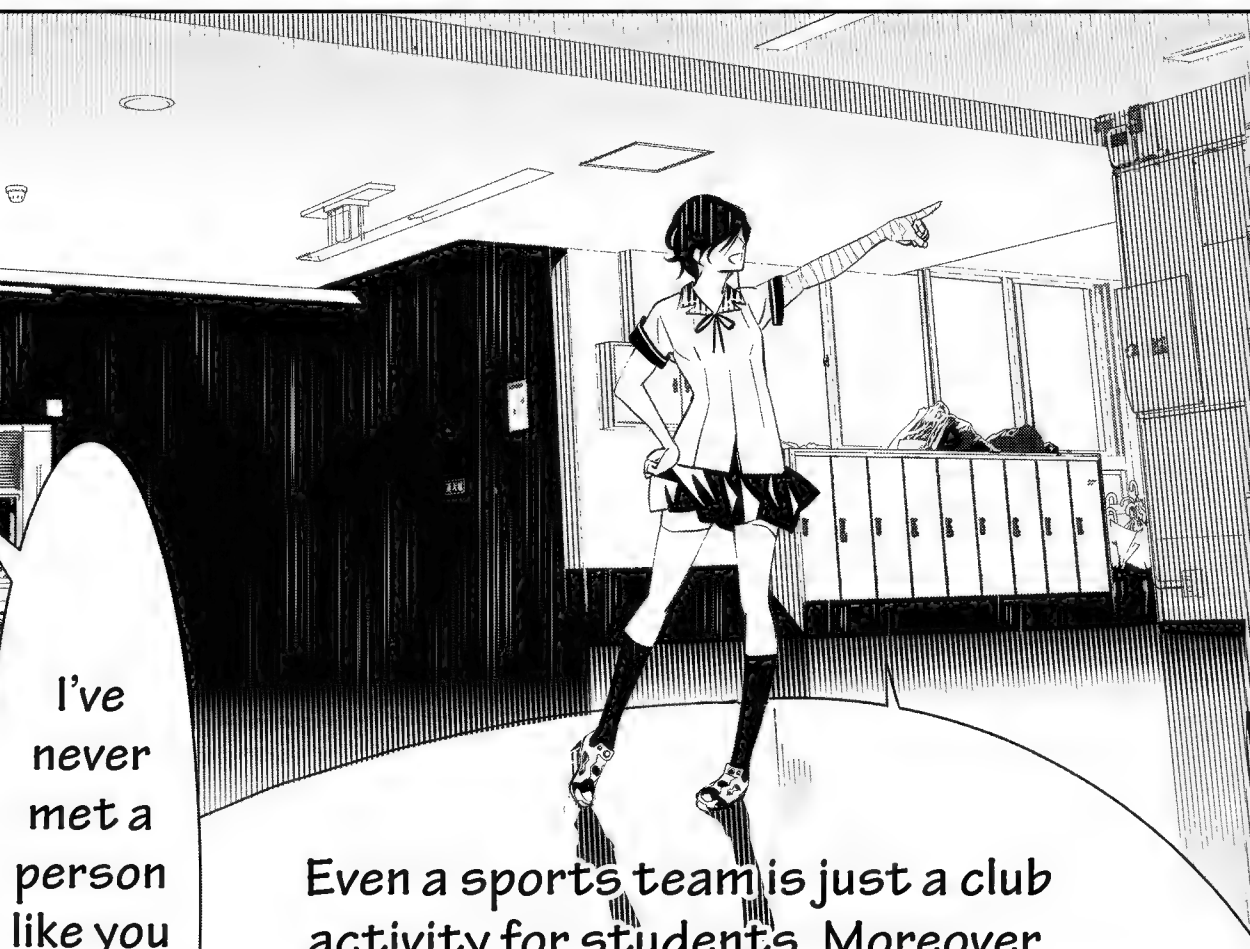
The devil, huh? Well, I'm relieved to hear it anyway.



Is that so? There's no greater honor than to hear that from you. Heheh, what is this feeling, inspiration? It's as though getting praised by someone as gracious as you has opened up a whole new well of courage in me. I feel like I can do anything now.

I've never met a person like you before, either ...

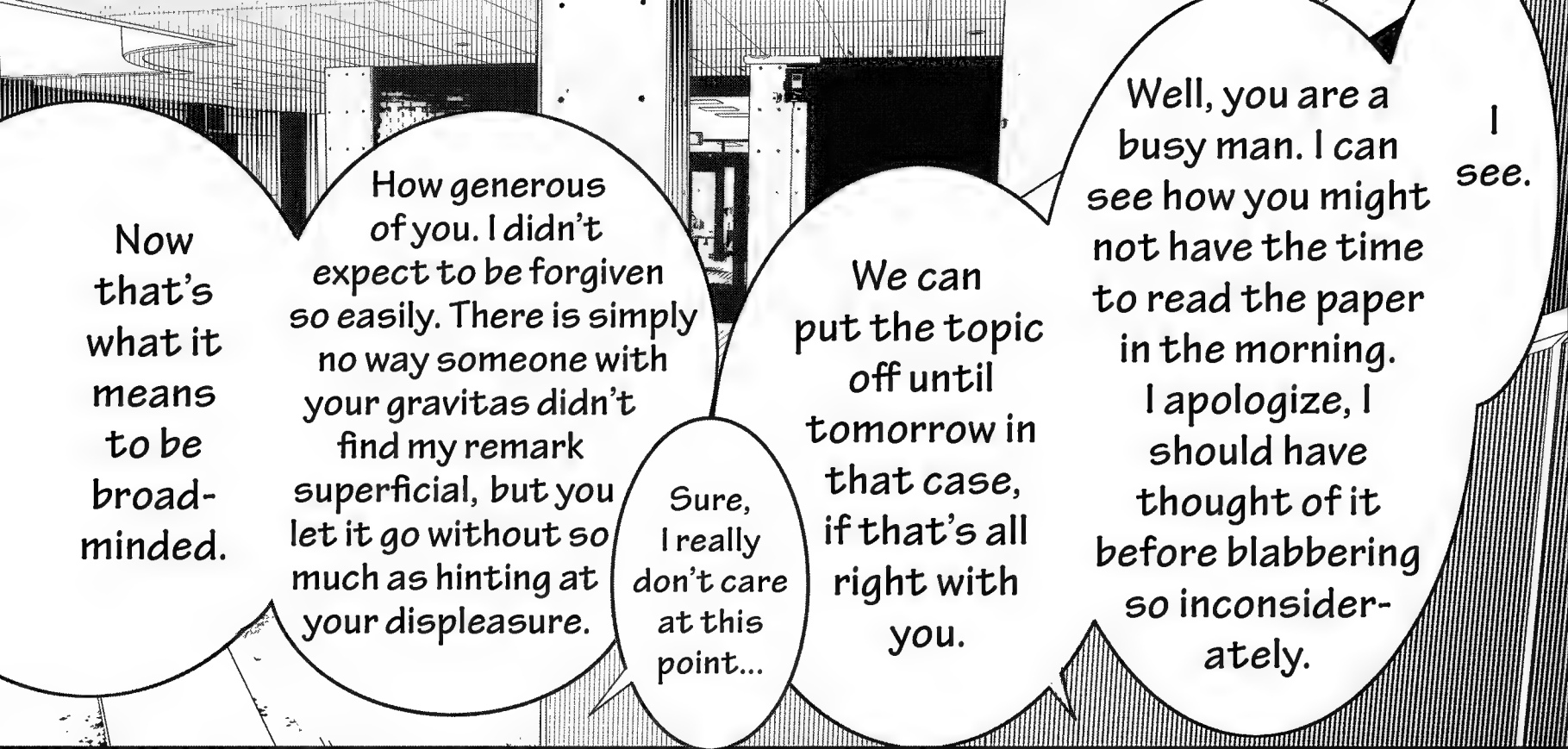
Even a sports team is just a club activity for students. Moreover, ours is a prep school. At the end of the day, an extracurricular is a way for us teens to have some memories, so fun, free, and friendly does it. Even so, most of my betters wouldn't bother to have anything to do with me, but not only are you looking out for my relationships, you're even thinking of my teammates. I feel bad for making you so concerned. Such depth of character expands my own horizons—to think that you'd even play the villain for the basketball team's sake. Only someone who truly cares about his juniors could go that far. I've never met a person like you before, sir.

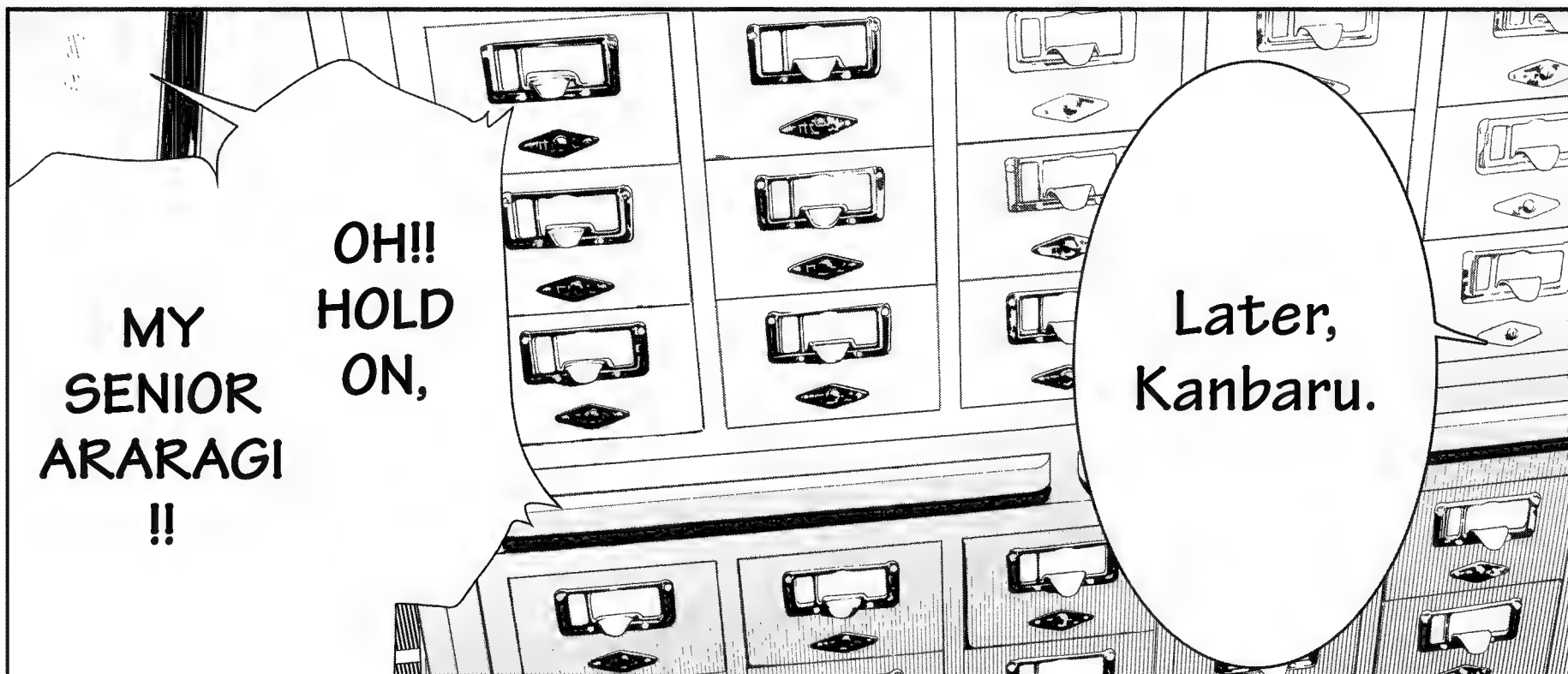
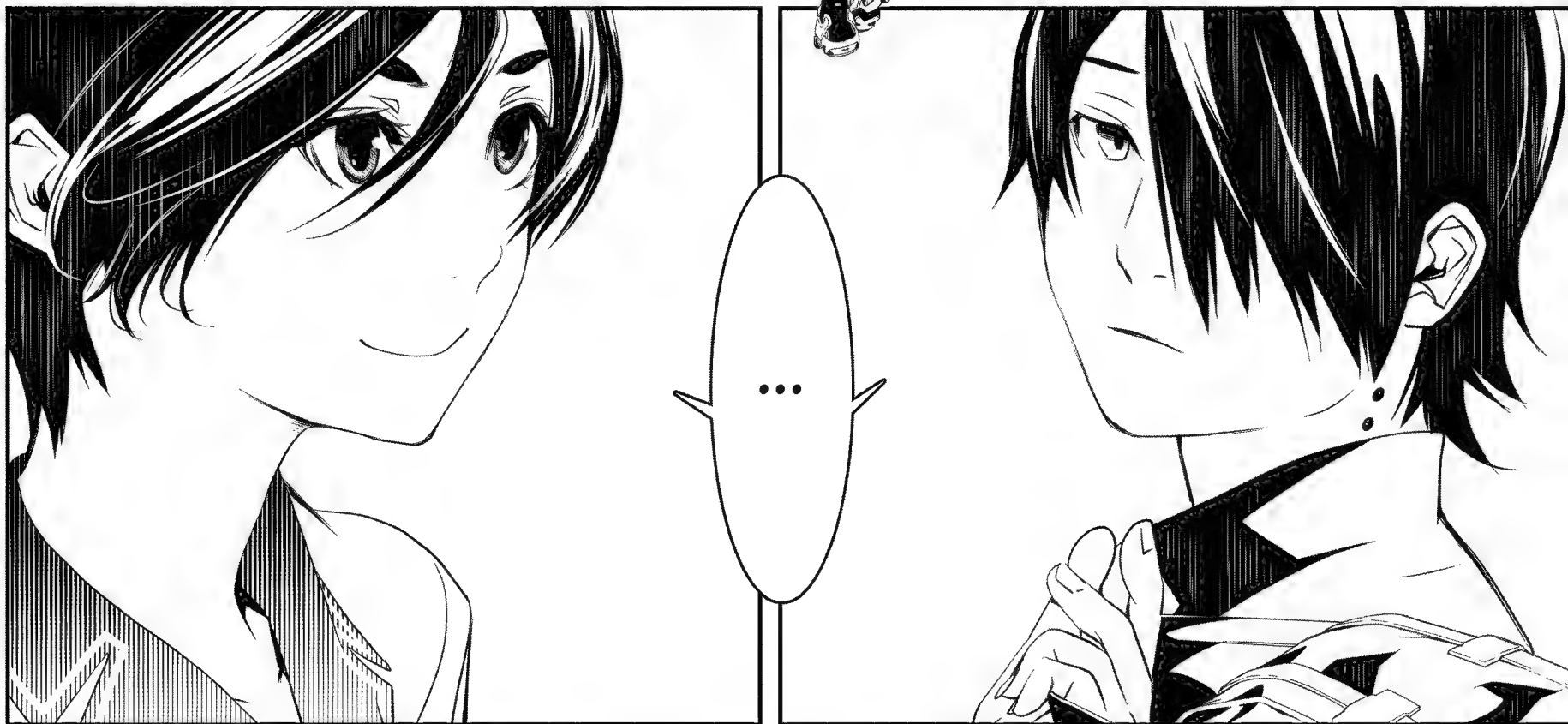




**I
KNOW
NOTHING
ABOUT
IT!!!**

I was hoping
to hear your
thoughts on
the unfolding
political
situation in
Russia.







*Hasn't
odd
happened
today...?*

Tell
me...



Not
really?

Just
you!!



No
...?

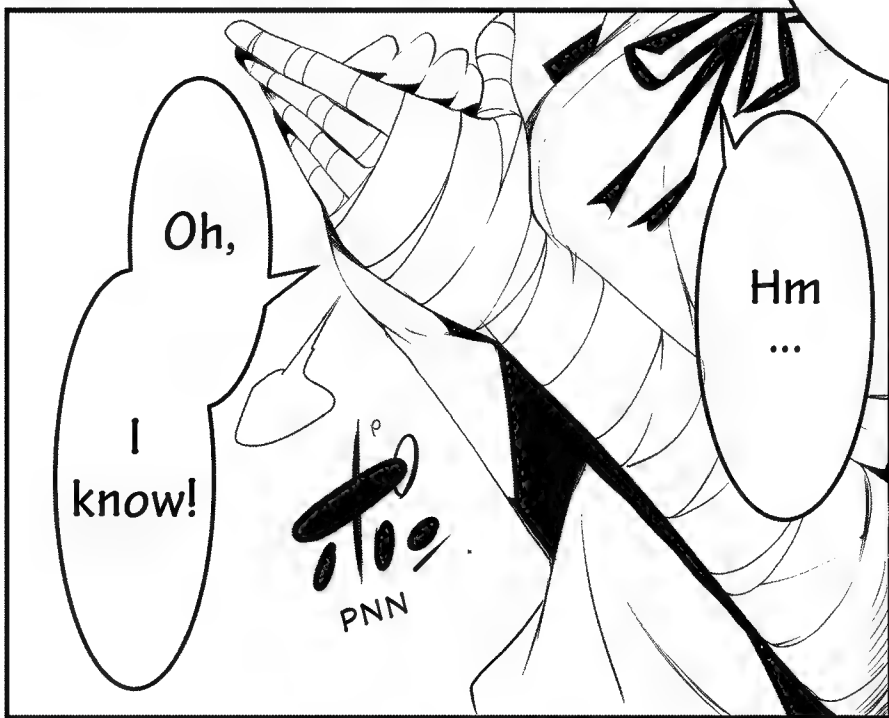


In fact,
I'm going
to a study
session
today.

Well,
the skills
test is
coming up

and
that's
giving me
a head-
ache.

A
study
session
?



Who else
could it be if
it's someone
with good
grades in
your class?

You
know
her
...?

I've heard rumors
about her.

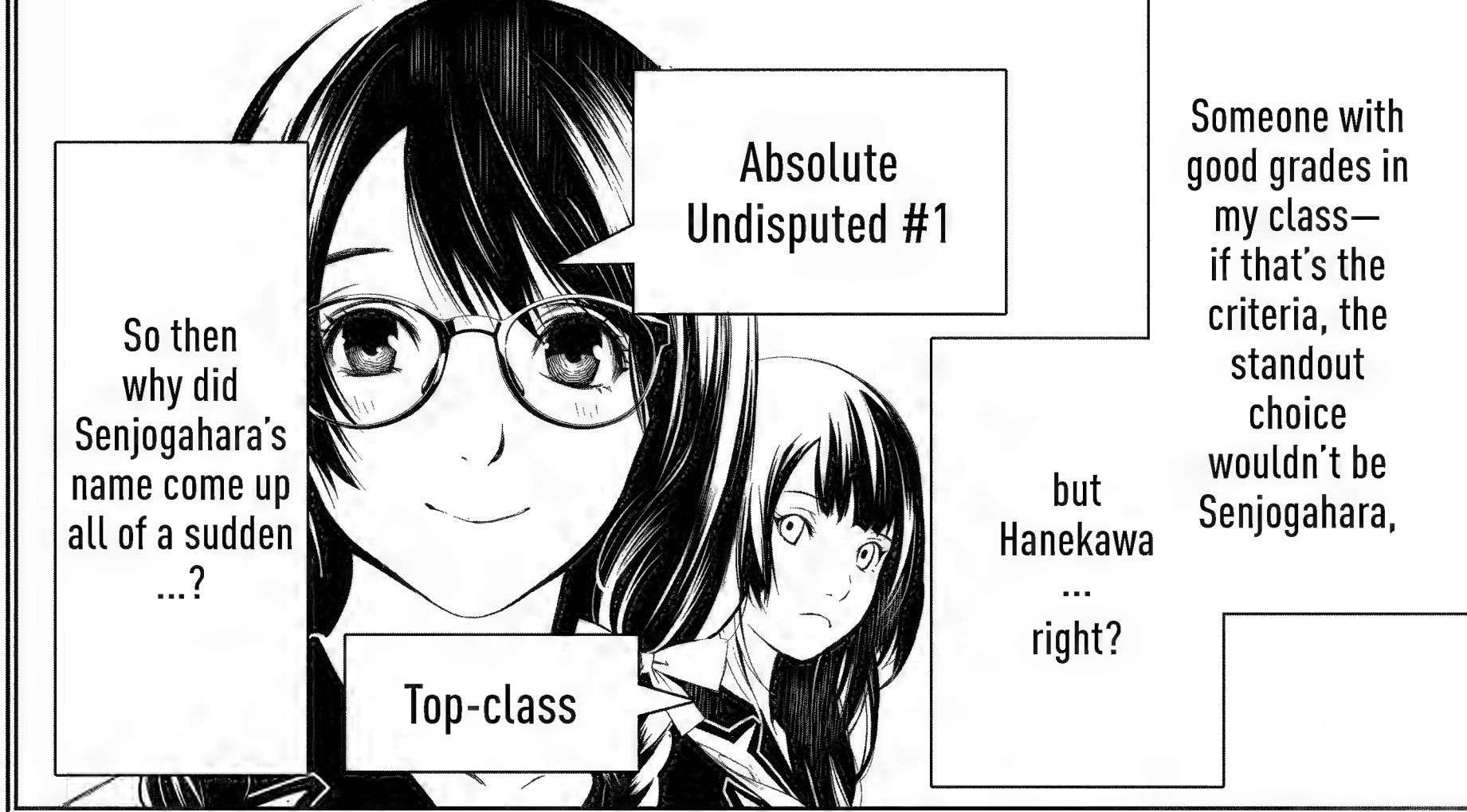
because
hidden in
them was
a powerful
sense that
something
was wrong.

I should
have taken
notes on
every last
one of
Kanbaru's
never-ending
words...

Thinking
back
on it,

May
fortune
smile on
you!!

Well,
I'll be off,
my senior
Araragi.



So then
why did
Senjogahara's
name come up
all of a sudden
...?

Absolute
Undisputed #1

Someone with
good grades in
my class—
if that's the
criteria, the
standout
choice
wouldn't be
Senjogahara,

but
Hanekawa
...
right?

Top-class



about
Kanbaru and
Senjogahara's
"relationship"...

Then, there
was what
Hanekawa had
told me



it sounded like they
were pretty close in
middle school...

One of her
juniors was
super fast,
too.

but at the
very least

I shouldn't
judge based
on rumor
alone,

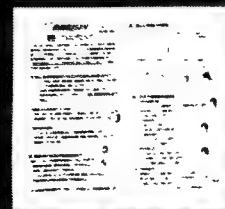
They were
known as the
Valhalla Duo,
you see...



And yet
she'd
only
"heard
rumors"
...?

That
sounds
pretty
distant.
Or maybe...

Suruga
Kanbaru
approached
me with lies
from the
start.



FIRE HYDRANT

化
bake

物
mono

SURUGAmonkey
4

語
gatari



Well,

I guess she's going easy on me today...

haah...

THMP

WHP



Hm?

SHP SHP

That note from Hane-kawa!!

What?

It's gone... where'd I put it?!

Huh ?!



• Studying Long English Passages
• Next Stage English Grammar and Expression Questions
• 1200 College Entrance Exam Japanese Questions
• Deepen Your Reading Abilities, Modern Japanese Lit
• Chart Style Solutions and Practice, Math Edition
• Focus Add Math I + A
• New High School Biology Textbook by Shin Tōchinai and Takeo Samaki
• Actual Chemistry Questions: Basic Chemistry and Chemistry
• Actual Physics Questions: Basic Physics and Physics
• Common Japanese History B Questions and Answers
• World History B Questions and Answers
• Terminology Questions
• Getting Unbelievable Scores on the Center Exams Geography B Test
• Intensive Seminar: Center Exam Modern Society
• Getting Unbelievable Scores in Ethics, Politics, and Economy
• Center Exam Past Question Review
• Organizing Thoughts by Shigenko Toyama
• Japanese Composition Technique by Katsuchi Honda
• Think and Grow Rich by N. Hill
• A World History by William Mondell
• How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie

HERE
YOU GO!



This, right?



Since
I had to
borrow
books from
the library
for the
skills test

No worries.
I had
something
to do in the
library,
anyway.

but didn't
even know
what to get...
Hane-kawa
made me
that list.

sorry
about
that.

Hane-
kawa...

See ya,
Hane-
kawa!
Thanks!

FLUTTER

Oh...

so that's
when I
dropped it...

I still didn't
have the
courage...
to show her
a side of me
that's so
lame.

as her
boy-
friend,

Though
I probably
should've asked
Senjogahara
for that,

**AREN'T YOU
MISTER
POPULAR,
ARARAGI?**

As of late♡

Kanbaru's
been
stalking
me and
talking
nonstop
for three
days now,

...
It's not
what you
think.

but I
don't know
what she's
talking
about...

and,
honestly,
I don't
know what
she wants
from me.



She was listening
?!

Well,
I can't
blame
her given
how loud
we were
talking...

I'm quite
sure Miss
Kanbaru
straight-up
told you she
likes you.

Isn't
there an
easy answer
sitting right
there?



This, and
this, and...

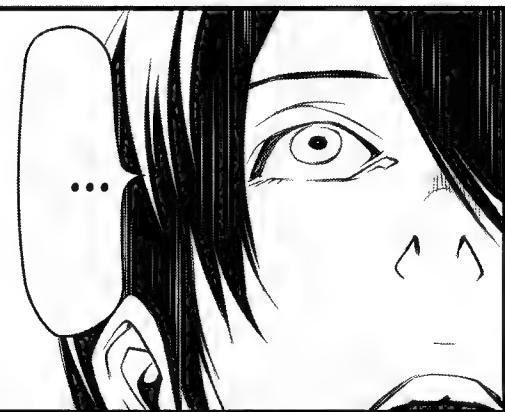
I'm not a
dating sim
protagonist.
It's not like
I'm going to
wake up one
day and
suddenly
have girls
all over
me...

There's
no way.
That was
just a
figure of
speech.



Because if you
were a dating sim
protagonist, I'm
sure I'd be one of
your targets.

You're
right.



Wait
...
huh?

Hanekawa
knows
about dating
sims...?





She's the type whose kindness fools you into thinking that you're getting close to her... only to discover that you haven't gotten any closer at all.

I don't know. Maybe...

Eh.

Don't you think?

if I were in a dating sim, I'm sure I'd be a difficult character to woo.

But



MAYBE SHE SAW YOU PICKING AN ABANDONED CAT OFF THE STREET?



In fact, I've never even seen an abandoned cat.

I've never done that!



Well, whatever the case, there's nothing between me and Kanbaru.

Really? I've heard she's very guarded when it comes to romance.

Which reminds me... rumor has it that Kanbaru goes from one wild romance to the next...





Golden Week. The cat aberration.



it
does
seem like
love at first
sight really
exists in the
world.

But
you know,
Araragi,

Just
thinking
about
it gives
me the
chills...

Urk
...

SHIVER SHIVER



I mean,
that's how
you fell in
love with
Miss
Senjogahara,
RIIIIGHT?



What're
you, a grade
schooler?



was public
knowledge
at that
point.

By the way,
the fact that
Senjogahara
and I were
going out





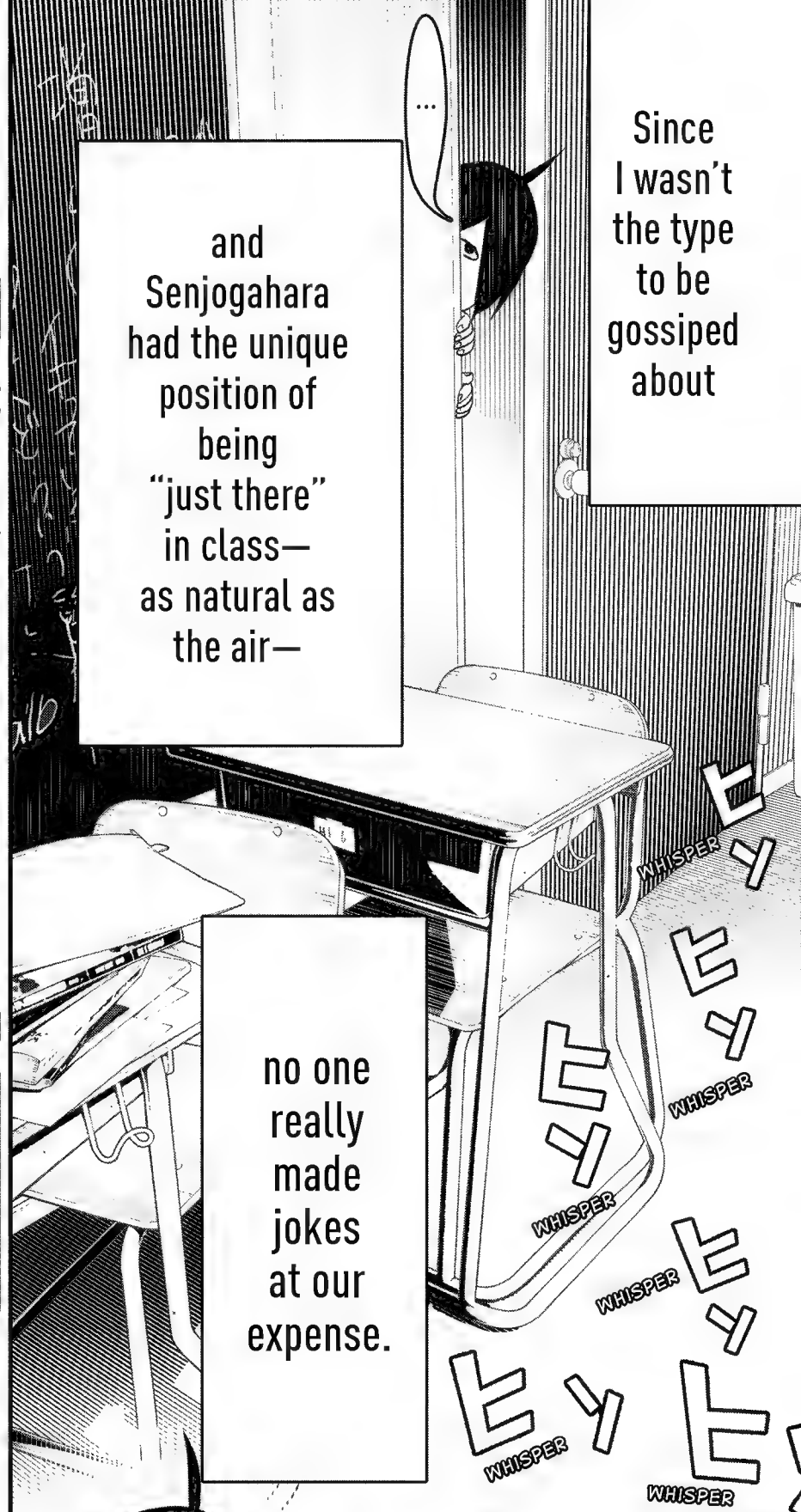
HEE
HEE
HEE

what
will
you
do,
Araragi
?

So,

It looks
like she's
still
trying to
figure out
where you
stand,

but Miss
Kanbaru
might
confess her
feelings to
you in the
near future,
you know.



and
Senjogahara
had the unique
position of
being
"just there"
in class—
as natural as
the air—

Since
I wasn't
the type
to be
gossiped
about

no one
really
made
jokes
at our
expense.

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER



I'm not
feeling
guilty about
anything,
you know.
Not at all.

You're
enjoying
this,
aren't
you?
What is it
you want
to say,
anyway?

No
way.







they seemed to snag on something inside me.

for some reason

When Hanekawa said those words in her usual chatty way,

That's right.

Heh... Well, it's not like anyone's going to pay attention to me in the first place.

and then there was someone totally different.

WHY SO HEAVY ?!

THOOMP

There was me, a guy who tried to keep himself isolated...

Any-way,

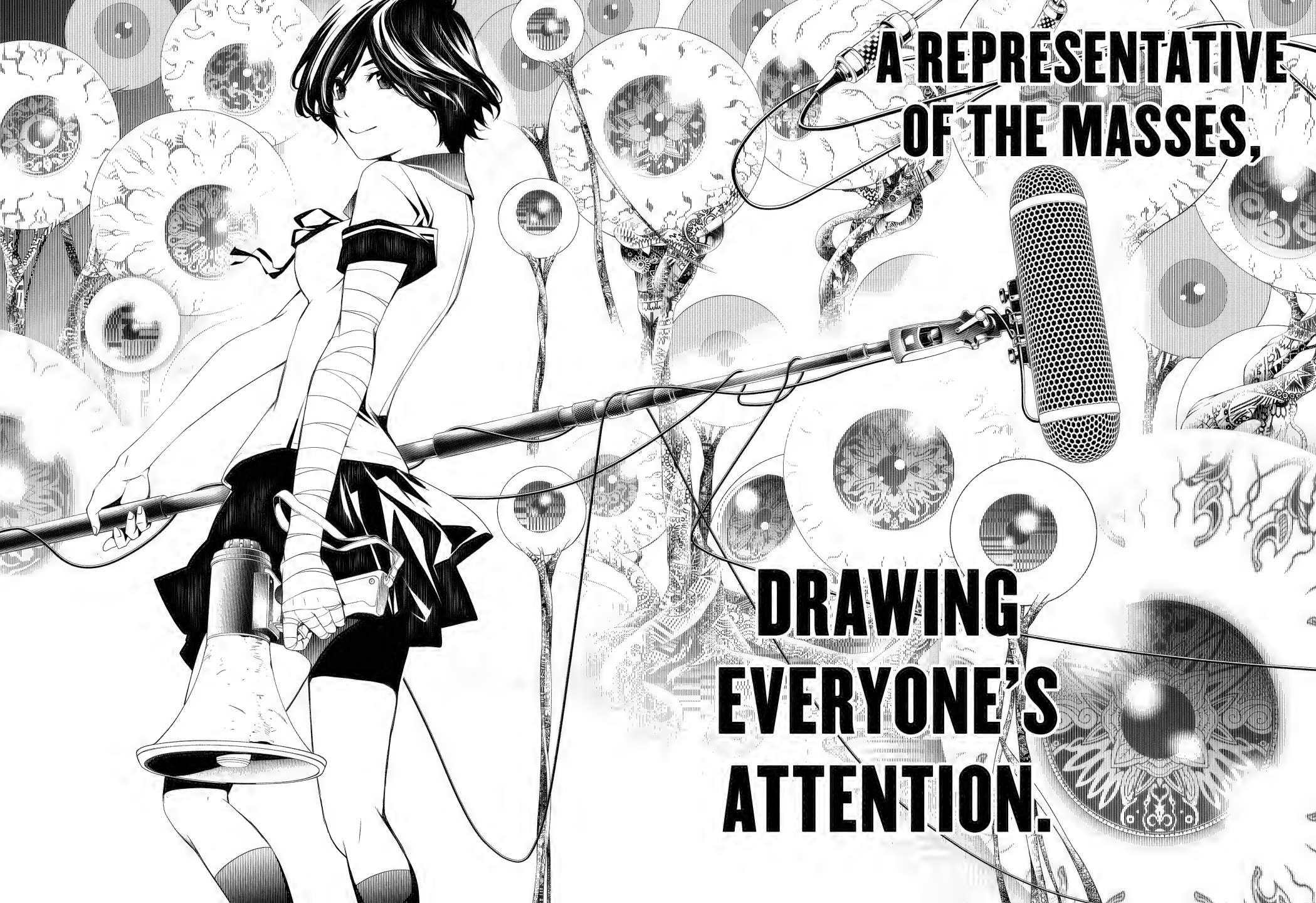
you really do know everything, Hanekawa ...

My polar opposite.

Who was always in the spotlight.

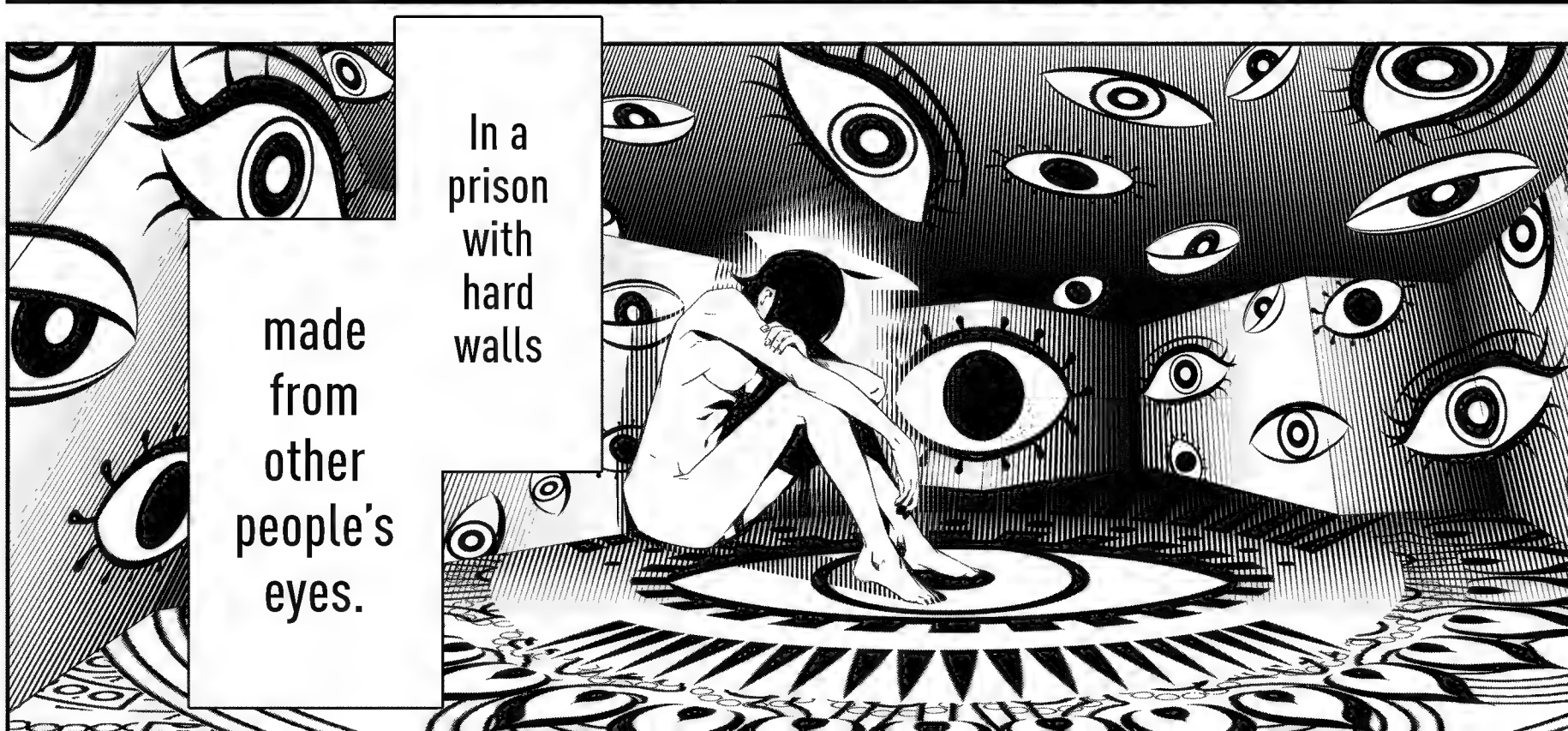
I don't know everything.

I just know what I know.



**A REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE MASSES,**

**DRAWING
EVERYONE'S
ATTENTION.**





The me
on the
other
side
of the
mirror.

is my
oppo-
site.

Suruga
Kan-
baru

why
I had a
hard time
around
her—
why I
ran.

I felt like
I started to
understand

When I
realized
that,



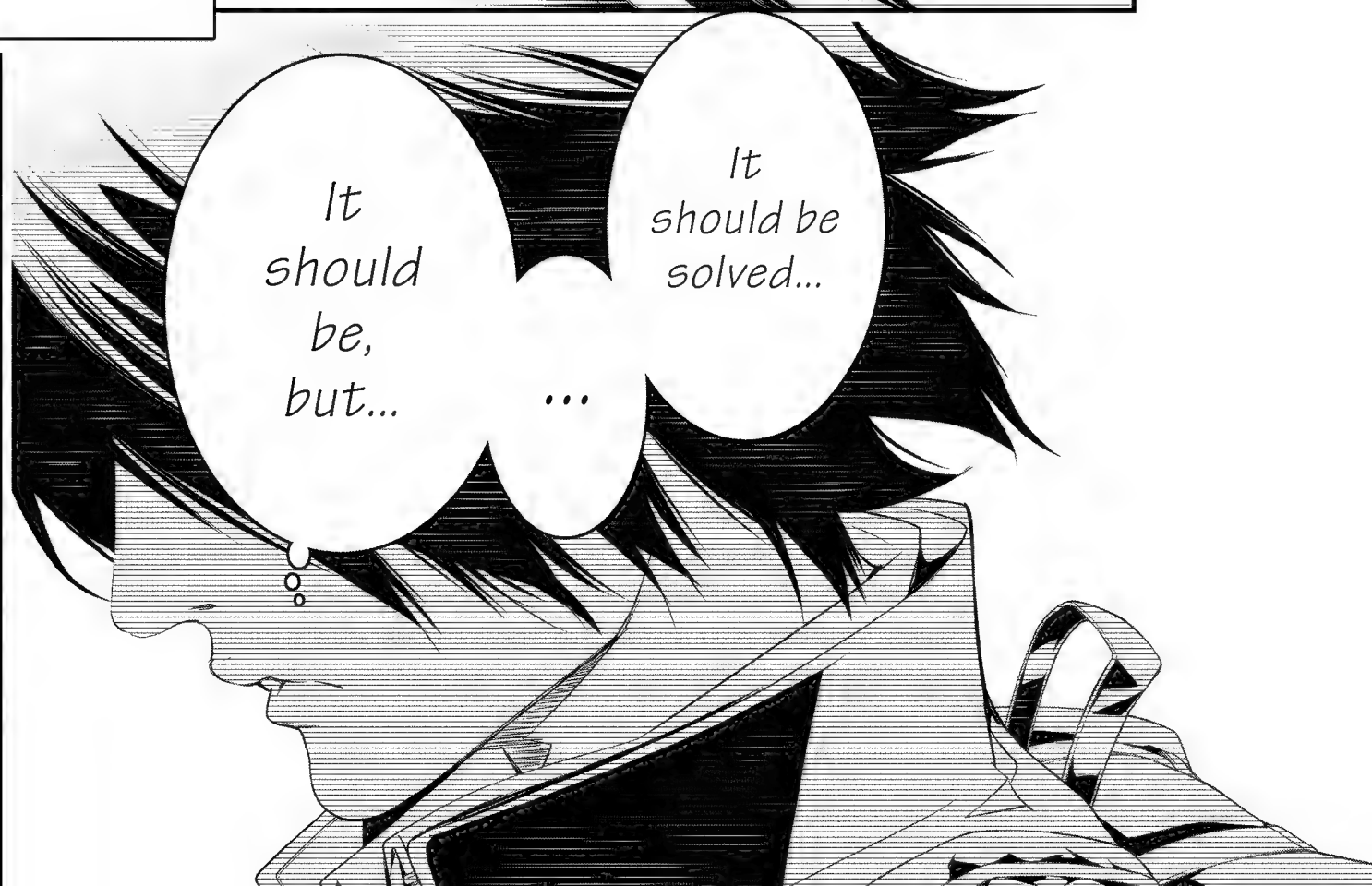
It's not
solved
at all.
*He still
lives
inside
me like
he was
meant to
be there.*

I
know.

It
should
be,
but...

...

It
should be
solved...

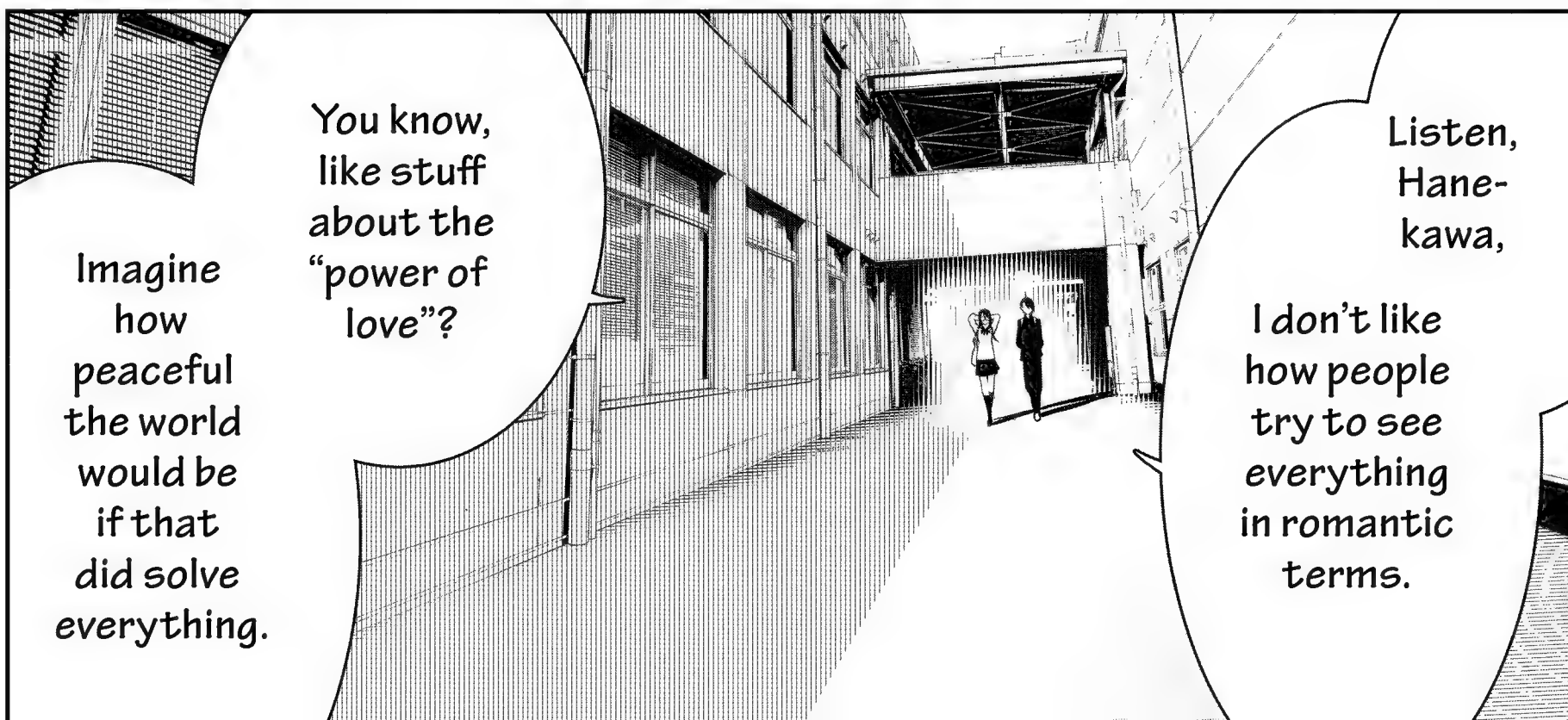




Another me.

Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion
Heart-Under-Blade's thrall.

The me who is a king of aberrations.



Imagine
how
peaceful
the world
would be
if that
did solve
everything.

You know,
like stuff
about the
“power of
love”?

Listen,
Hane-
kawa,

I don't like
how people
try to see
everything
in romantic
terms.





I feel like
someone said
something
unpleasant
about me.

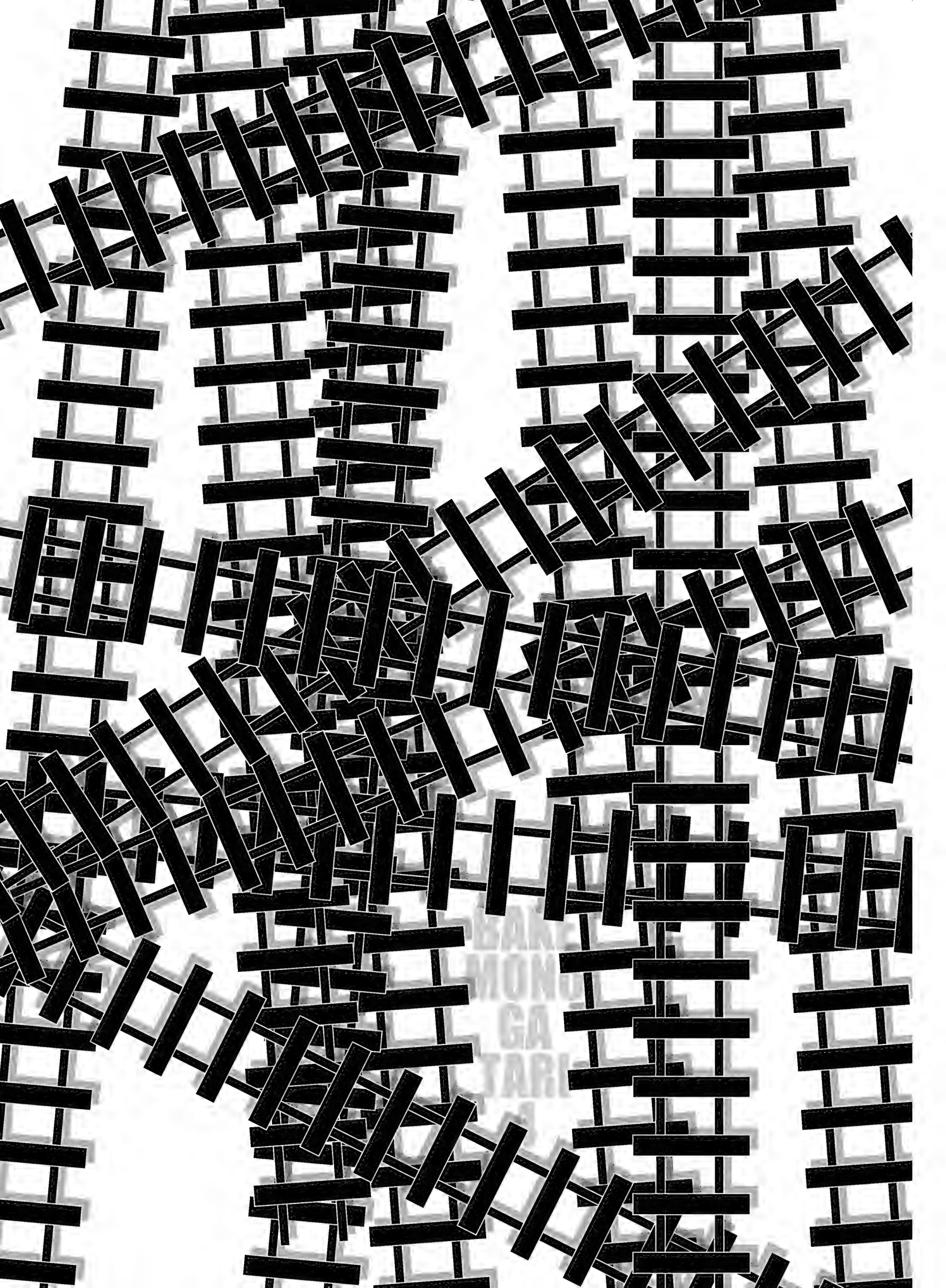
That night.
May 19, 7:37 p.m.



Like
what
?

Huh
...?

...



**BAKE
MONG
GA
TARI
4**



I feel like
someone said
something
unpleasant
about me.



GLUB
GLUB

It's fine,
though...

Even
so,

teaching
is rather
difficult...

...What
is she
doing?

She's
talking
to her-
self...?

Well, that
took me
off guard...

GOLDFI



Apt.
201
of the
Tami-
kura
Apart-
ments.

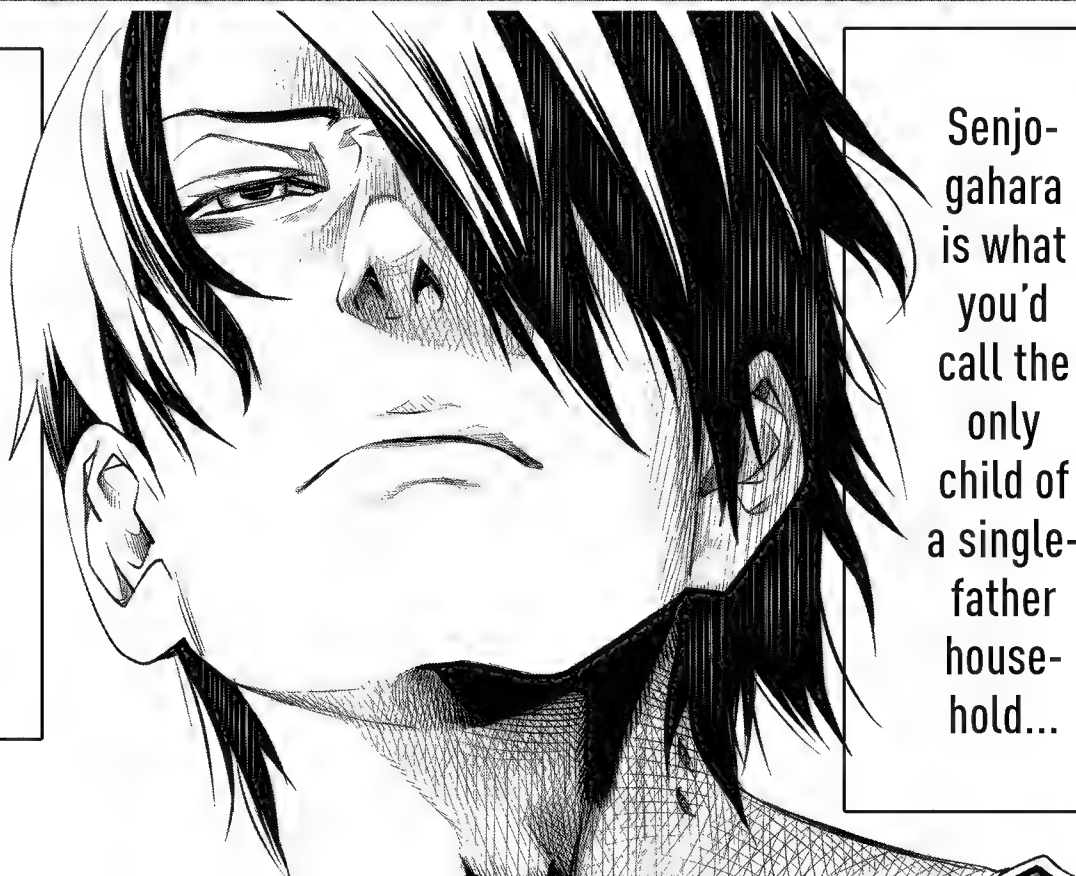
Alone
with
Senjo-
gahara,
studying
at her
place.

Yes...
just the
two of us.

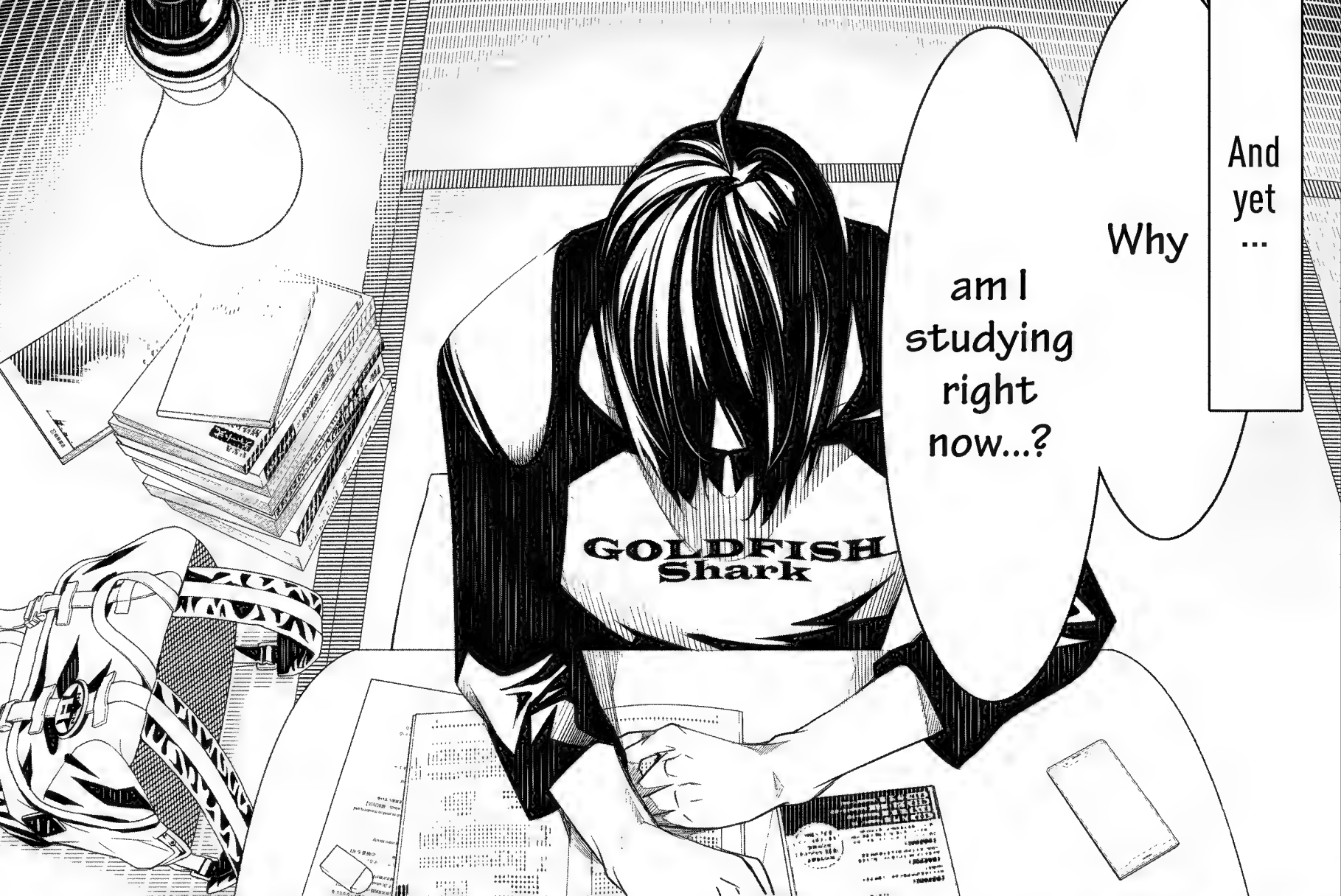
All
alone.

that he
doesn't
get home
until
late...!

and her
father's
always so
busy with
work...



Senjo-
gahara
is what
you'd
call the
only
child of
a single-
father
house-
hold...



am I
studying
right
now...?

Why

And
yet
...



**WHAT
A MEAN
WAY TO
PUT IT!**

Hm
?

Because
you're
stupid?



Come to
think of it,
we haven't
even gone
on a date!

Huh?!

Huh

we
haven't
done
anything
sexual.



Even
though
we're
going
out,





so I
can
grow
as a
person.

I'm feeling
motivated
to help you
pass this
skills test

But I
must
say,

A
lot of
things.
Yeah,
a whole
lot...

There are
other things
you ought to
do first if you
want to grow
as a person...

...



This is my
second time
coming here...
the first being
eleven days
ago...

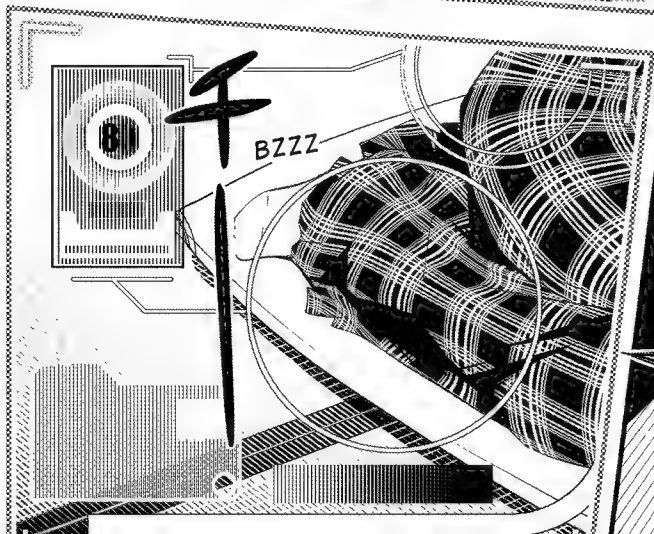
which
means...

The
present
perfect
tense
?!
**AM I
ALREADY
DEAD?!**

Oh, be
quiet.

I've
stran-
gled
you to
death.

I can't
help but
remember
it...



**Off Guard
Search** ▶▶▶▶

CHECK FOR OPENINGS

Just thinking about how your difficulty is set to hard...

Noth-
ing.

What
?

Openings
...
not
detected.

By
the way,
Araragi,
I was
wondering
...

I can't tell if
her guard is
all the way
down, or if it's
as high as it
can get...

what are you
going to do
next?

I'd like to start
off by eating a
home-cooked
meal made
by you!!

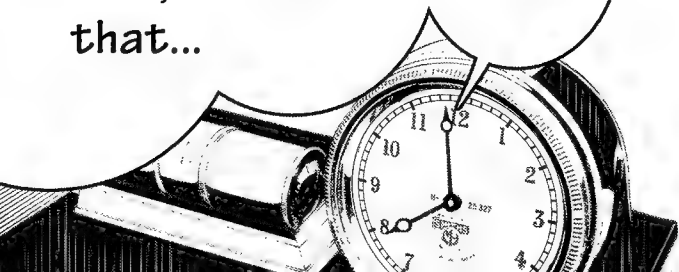
Huh
?

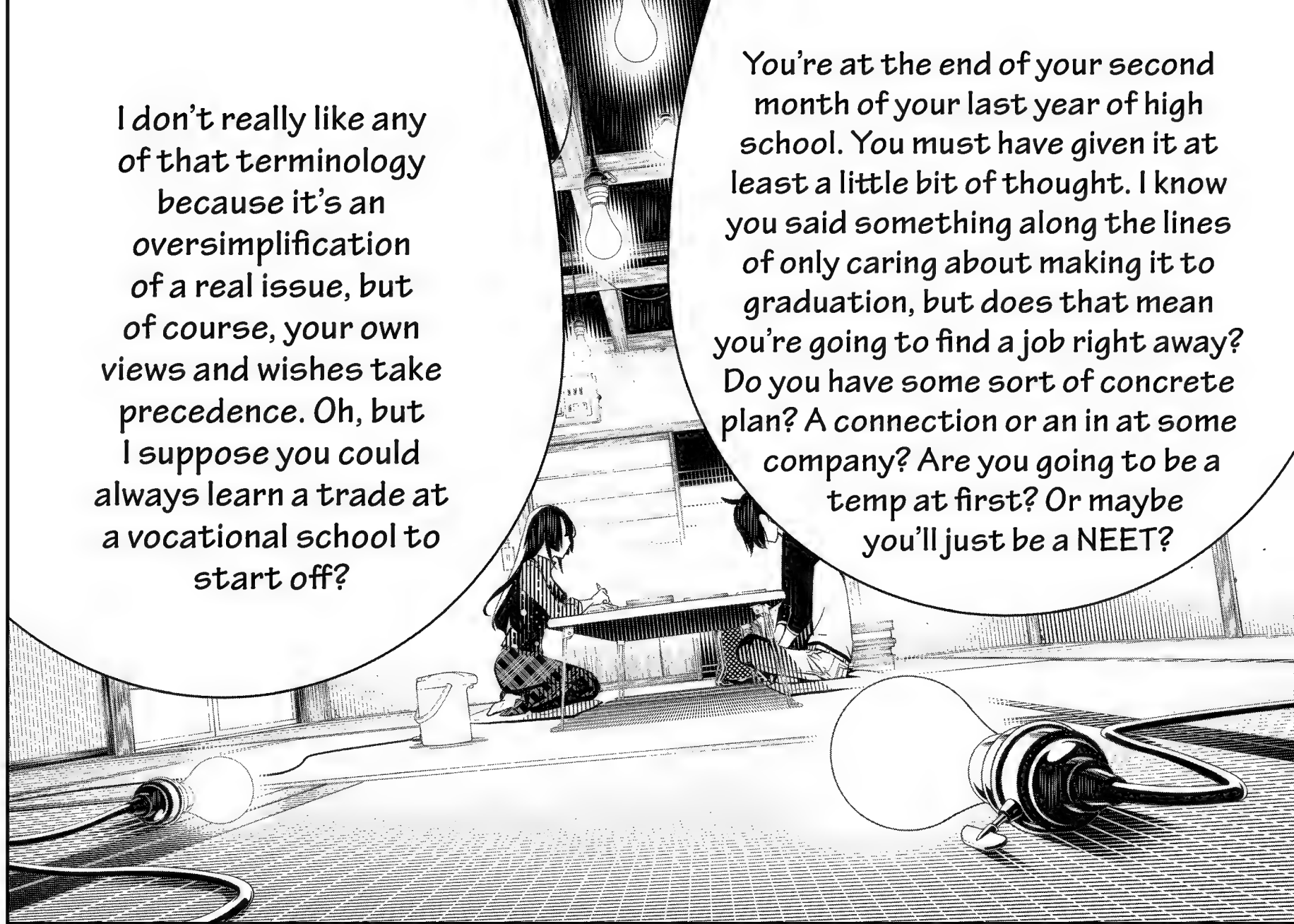
After
you gradu-
ate.

Huh?

Oh,
that...

Oh...





I don't really like any of that terminology because it's an oversimplification of a real issue, but of course, your own views and wishes take precedence. Oh, but I suppose you could always learn a trade at a vocational school to start off?

You're at the end of your second month of your last year of high school. You must have given it at least a little bit of thought. I know you said something along the lines of only caring about making it to graduation, but does that mean you're going to find a job right away? Do you have some sort of concrete plan? A connection or an in at some company? Are you going to be a temp at first? Or maybe you'll just be a NEET?



**I'M
YOUR
GIRL-
FRIEND.**



What are you, my mother...?

Your mother?

What are you talking about?



true.

Uh...
well,



you're
going
to go to
college,
right?

But...

I was
happy
to hear
that...

Huh?

I would like to
walk the same
path as you
if I can.



What's
the term?
Physically
impossi-
ble...?

Well...

that'd be...
a little...



Yes.

I am.

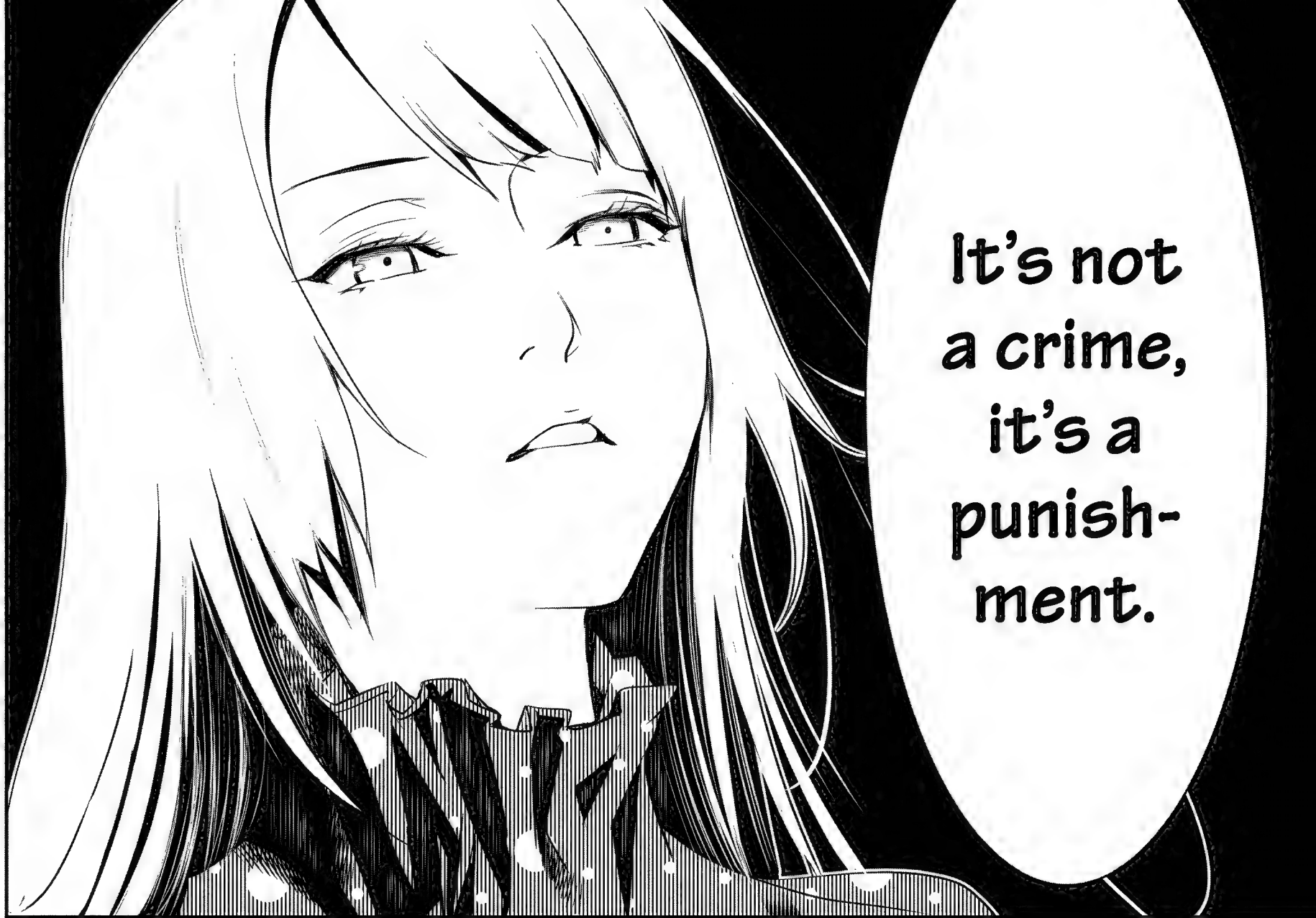


but
stupid-
ity
isn't.

Hm?

Right
...

Ignorance
may be a
crime,



It's not
a crime,
it's a
punish-
ment.



For
what?

A
punish-
ment?

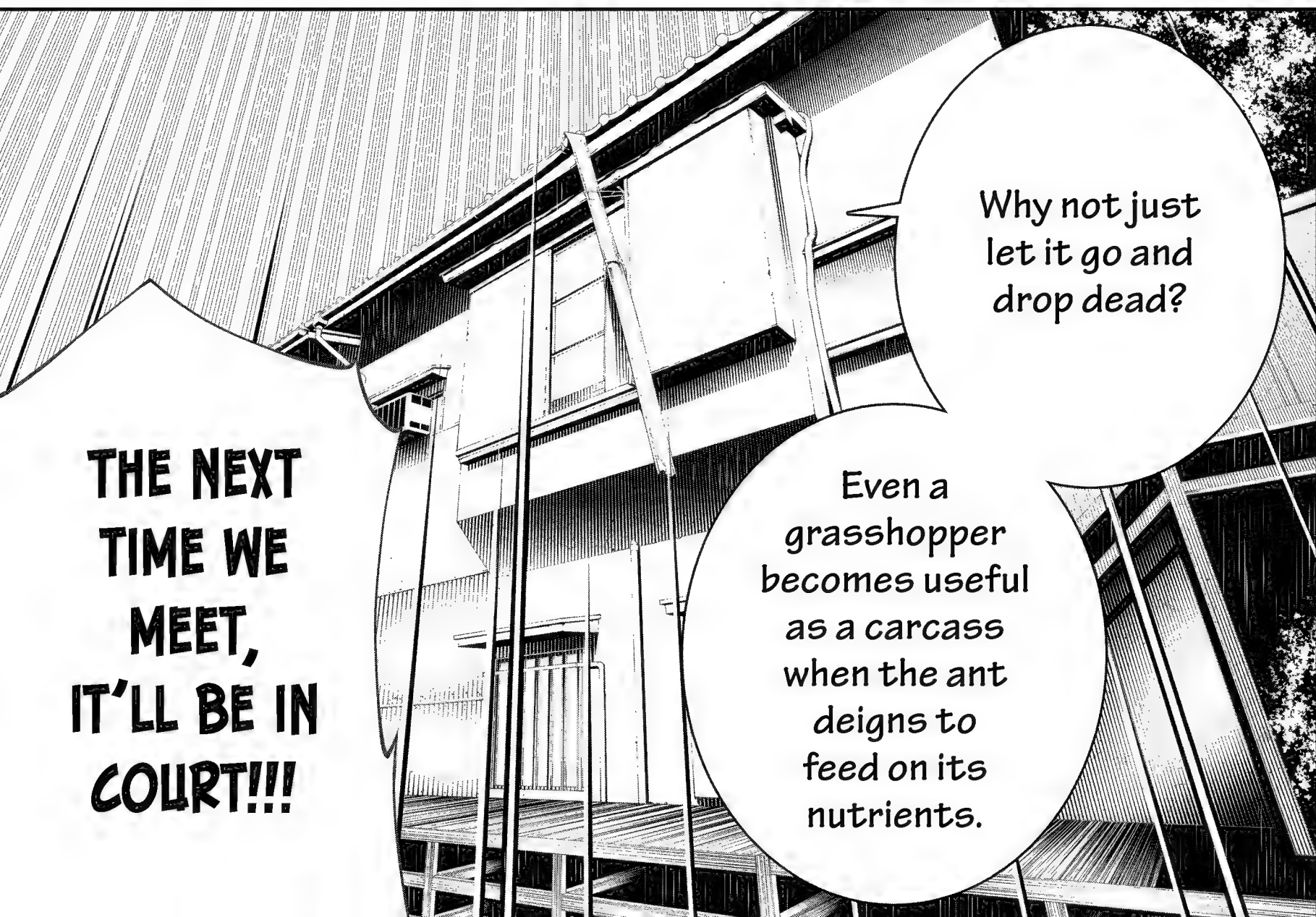
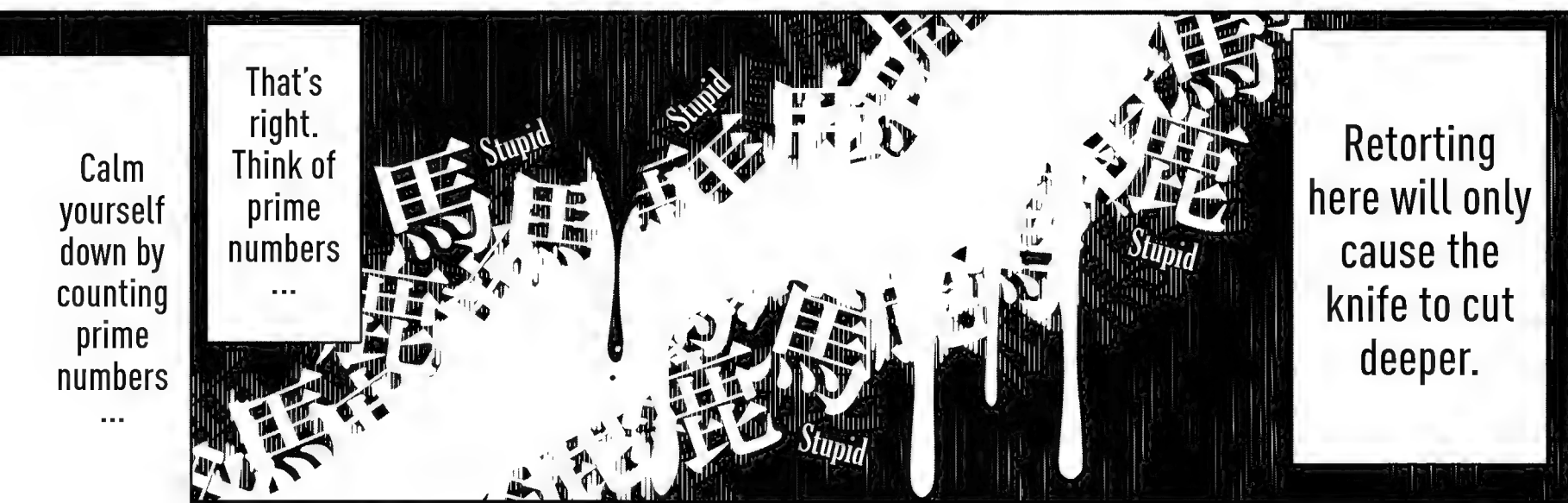
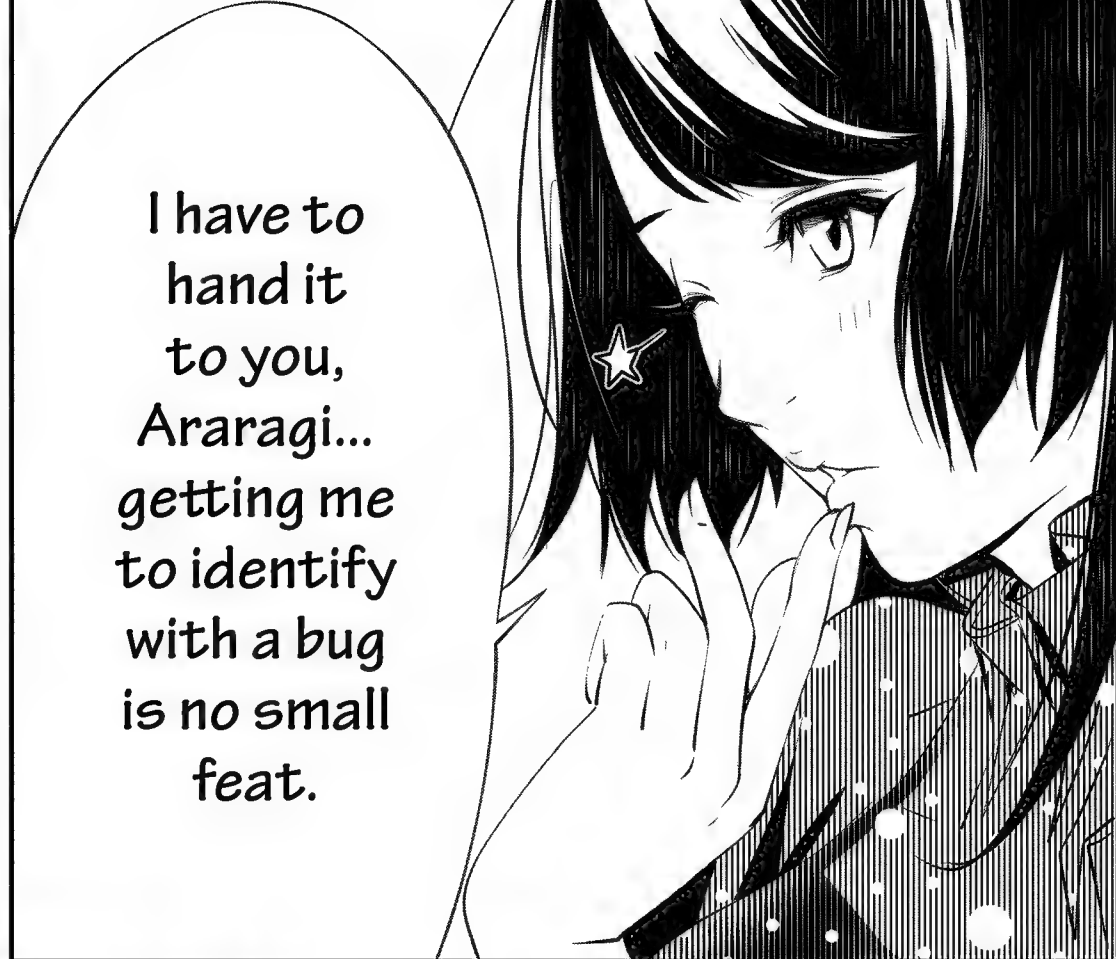
The Wages of Stupidity



See?
It's even
in this
book.

Miss Senjogahara
now had a clear idea
of how the ant felt
when it watched the
grasshopper freeze
to death.

You poor
thing...
If you had
been more
virtuous in
your past life
like me, this
wouldn't have
happened.





It's no good...

SIGH

...

I've never had a girlfriend before,

I'm so nervous that I might piss my pants ...

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

so I don't know what to do in a situation like this...

TREMBLE

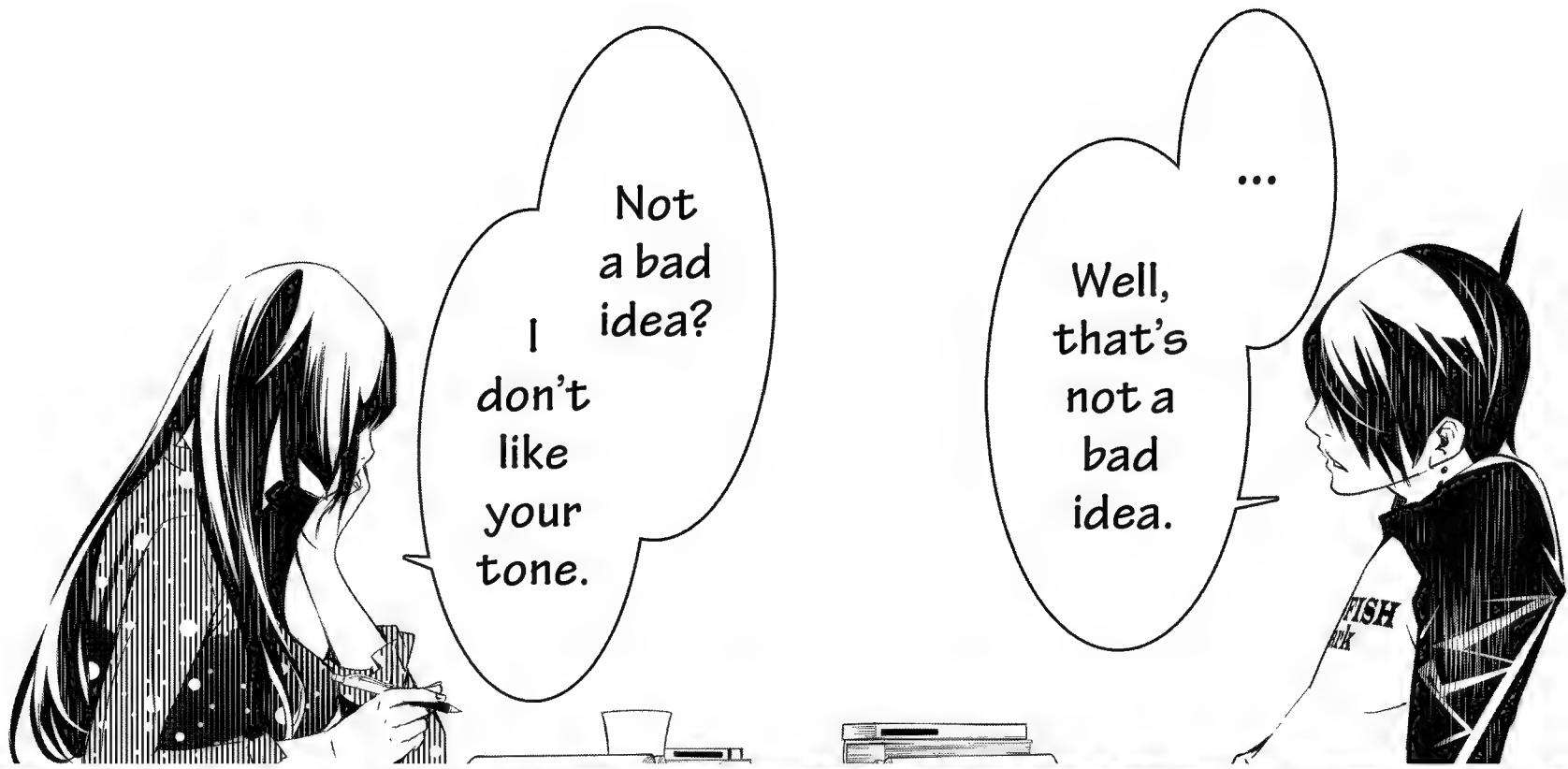
No, wait...
that's too risky.
There's a chance it
could backfire and
instantly kill me...

Do I start
sneaking in
dirty jokes to
take the mood
in a sexy
direction...?

What
should
I do?







Not
a bad
idea?
I
don't
like
your
tone.

Well,
that's
not a
bad
idea.
...



Oh,
I see.

Yes...
I'd like
to.
Please,
let's do
that.



SKRIBB
+ |
SKRIBB
+ |
SKRIBB
+ |
SKRIBB
+ |

This is Hitagi Senjogahara I'm dealing with.

is not the type to joke at moments like this... Even someone as unobservant as me can see that by now.

This girl...

...

But maybe ...

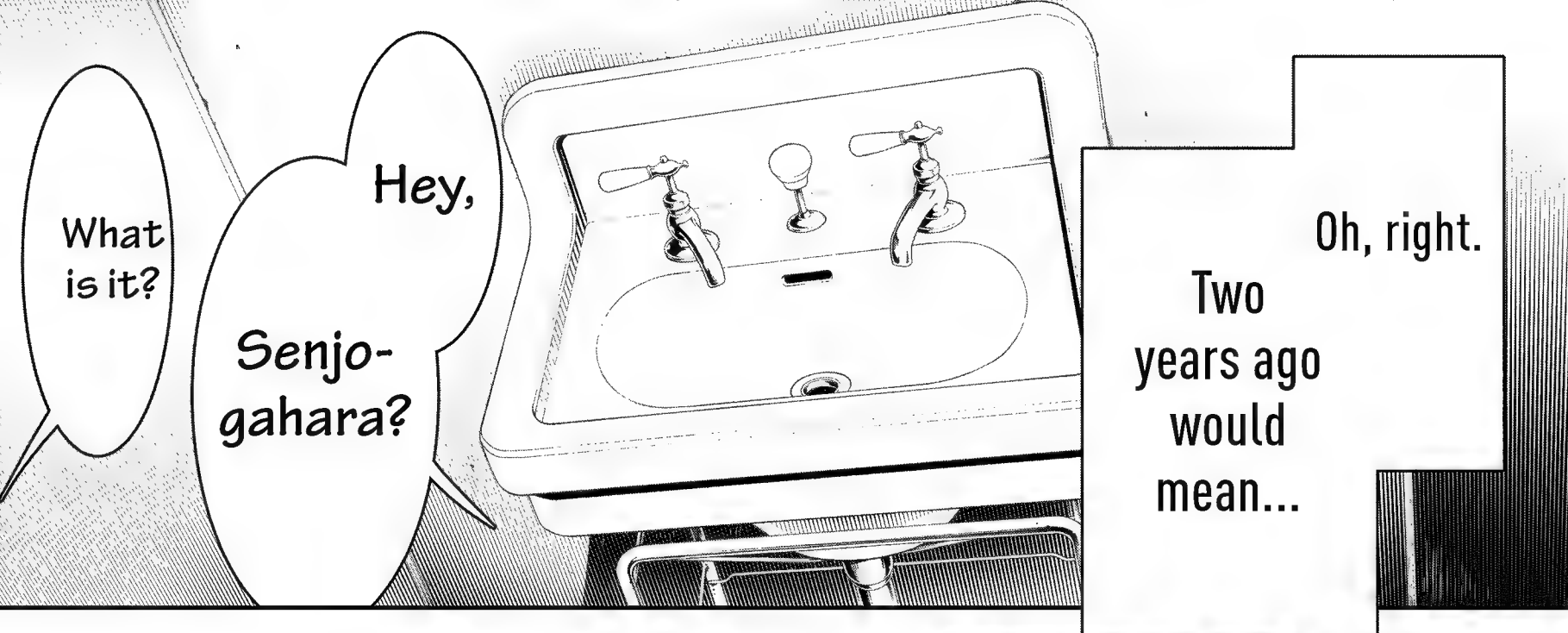
Two years. Hitagi Senjogahara avoided contact with other people for two years.

...



Maybe Senjogahara is
just as clueless as I am
about what to do in
a moment like this.









You sound
awfully
close to
her.





Kan-
baru?

Is
there
some-
thing

be-
tween

you and
that girl,
Araragi?

H-

Hey!
Hey
!!

FWOOM



FWOOM

FWOOM

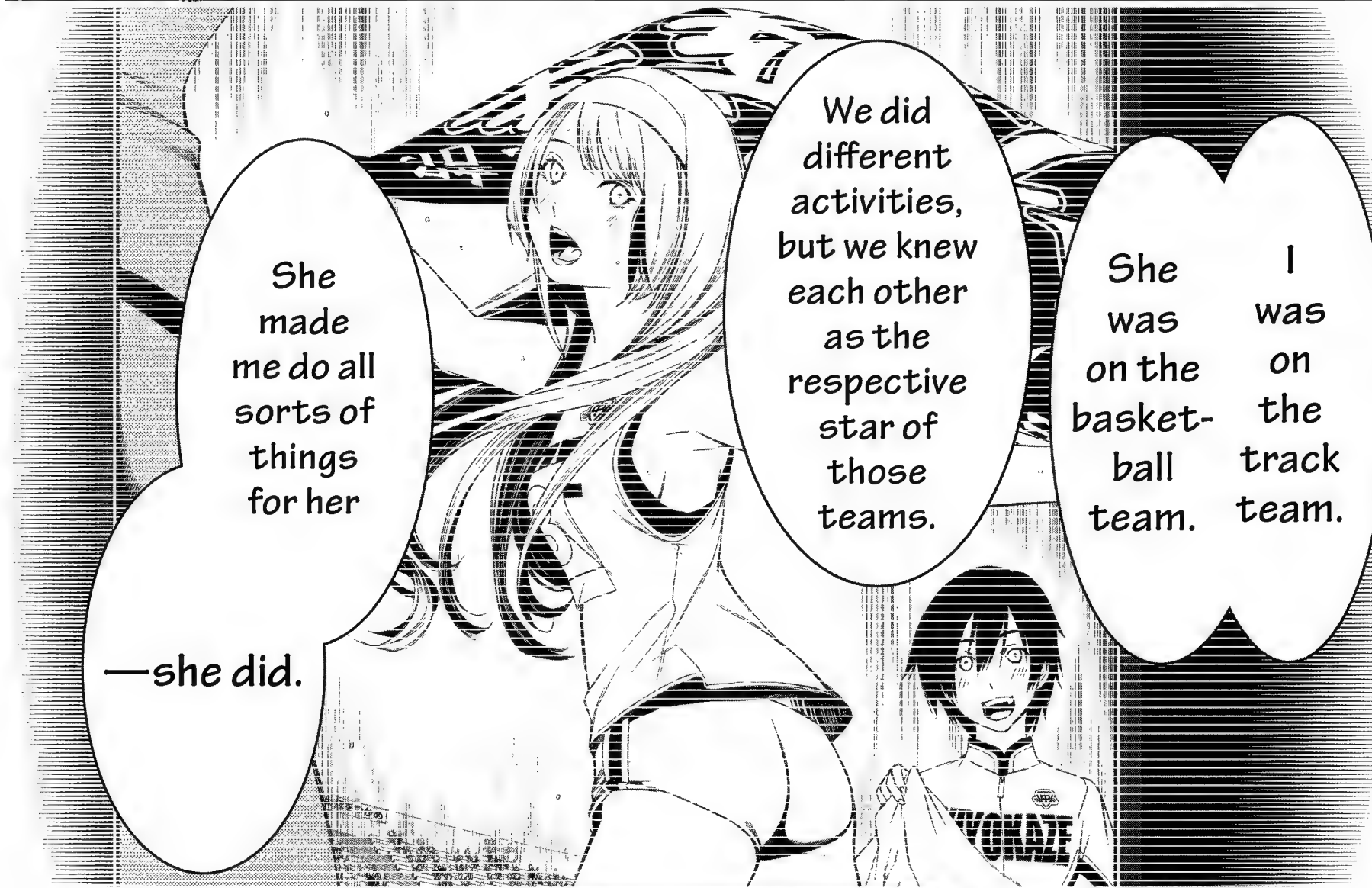
FWOOM

↑
The God of
Jealousy



my junior
in middle
school.

It's a
funny story.
Yes, Kanbaru
was...

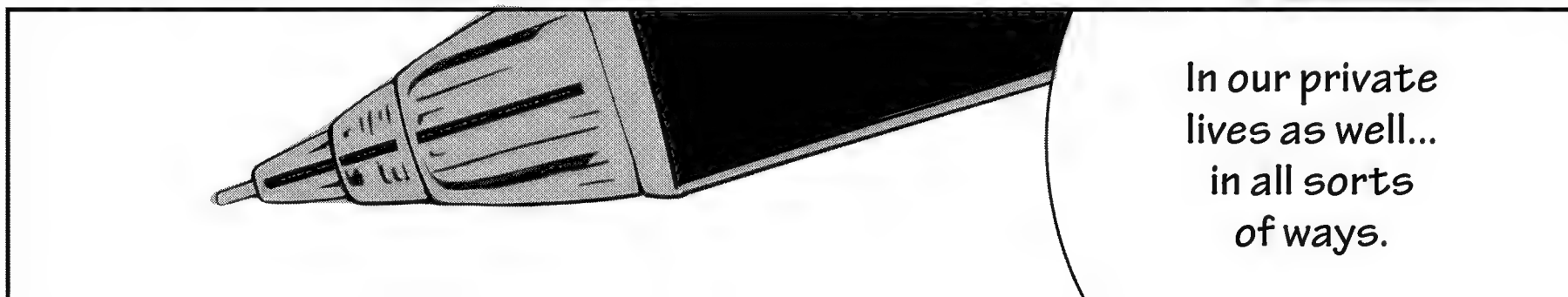


She
made
me do all
sorts of
things
for her

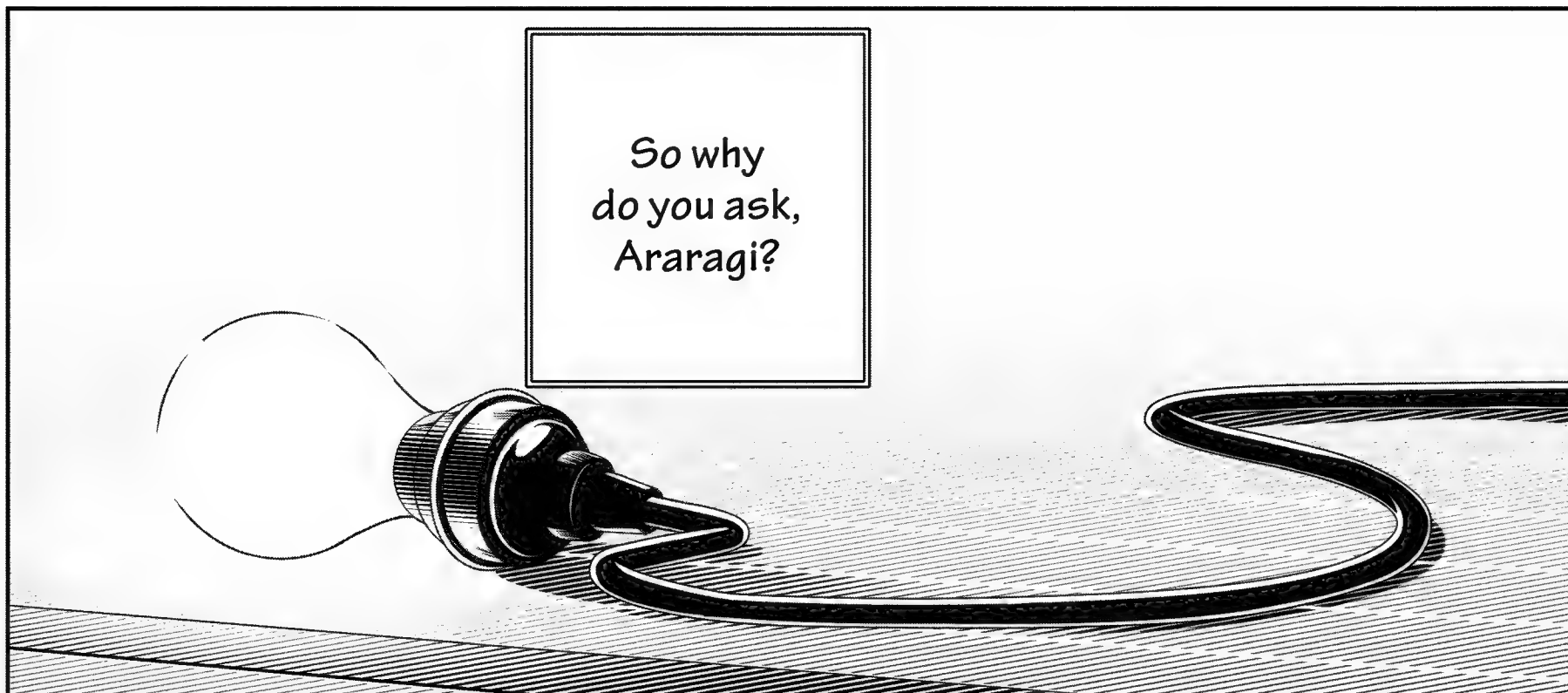
—she did.

We did
different
activities,
but we knew
each other
as the
respective
star of
those
teams.

I
was
on the
track
team.
She
was
on the
basket-
ball
team.



In our private
lives as well...
in all sorts
of ways.



So why
do you ask,
Araragi?



I can hear it dripping from the way you say her name.

"I'M TOTALLY CLOSER TO KANBARU. OH, WAIT, THAT REMINDS ME. DIDN'T YOU, LIKE, SAY YOU KNOW HER OR SOMETHING?"

like

**NO, NO!
IT'S NOT DRIPPING!
IT'S NOT EVEN DAMP!!**

You're



I got to see this side of her over something I have a good excuse for.

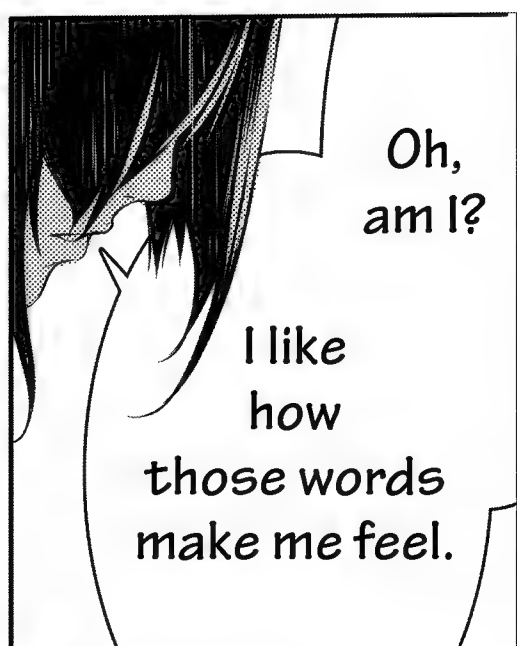
Just how jealous is this girl...?

In a way... I'm glad.

**STOP, NO!
LOSING AN
EYEBALL
WOULD STILL
BE BAD!!**

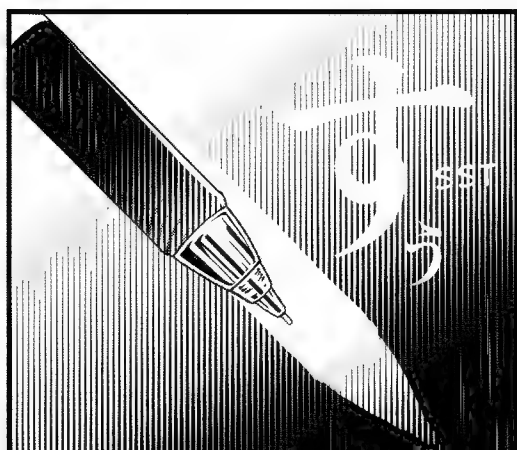
You heal
from
injuries
incredibly
fast.

So a
single
eyeball
can't be
that bad,
can it?



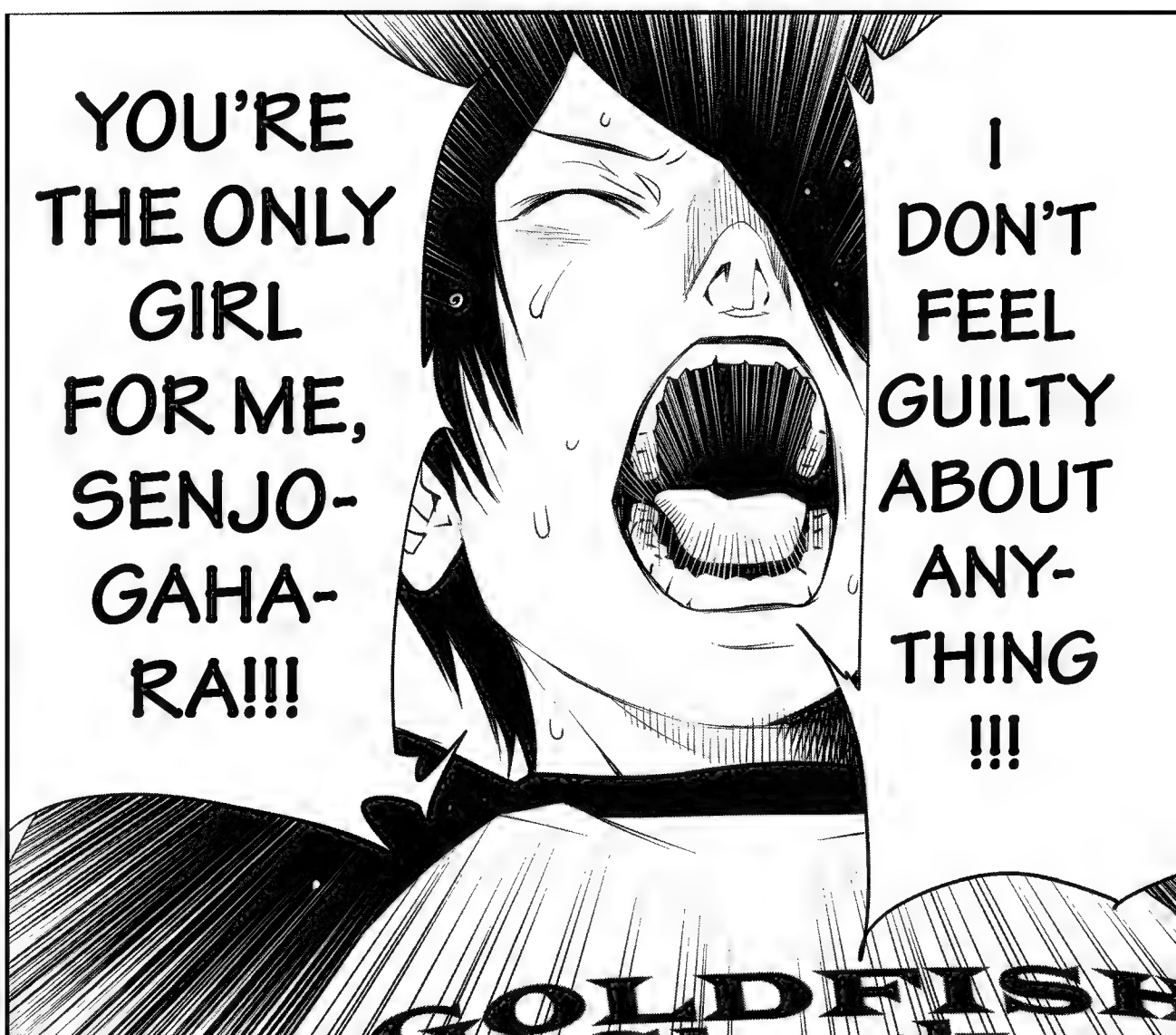
Oh,
am I?

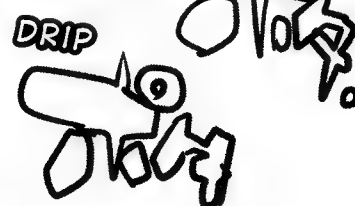
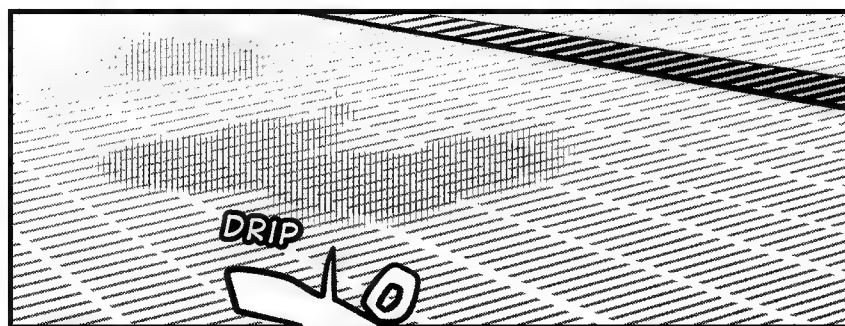
I like
how
those words
make me feel.



**YOU'RE
THE ONLY
GIRL
FOR ME,
SENJO-
GAHA-
RA!!!**

**I
DON'T
FEEL
GUILTY
ABOUT
ANY-
THING
!!!**







Ya know,
you're going
to kill
someone
one of these
days...

**STOP
MAKING UP
ABILITIES
I DON'T
EVEN
HAVE!!**



Your quick
powers of
judgment
let you turn a
crisis into an
opportunity, even
in this situation.
Go ahead, you
should be proud
of that.

In a way, I'd say
that's worthy of
respect. You're
trying this hard
to make me
change clothes
so you can sneak
a peek.



**DON'T
TRY TO MAKE
SOMETHING
DISTURBING
SOUND
COOL!**

I won't
choose
anyone
else, I
promise.

And when
I do, I'll make
sure it's
you.

You'll
be my
first.

Winter, a Time of Ends

—The Steamy Murder at the Naoetsu Hot Springs—

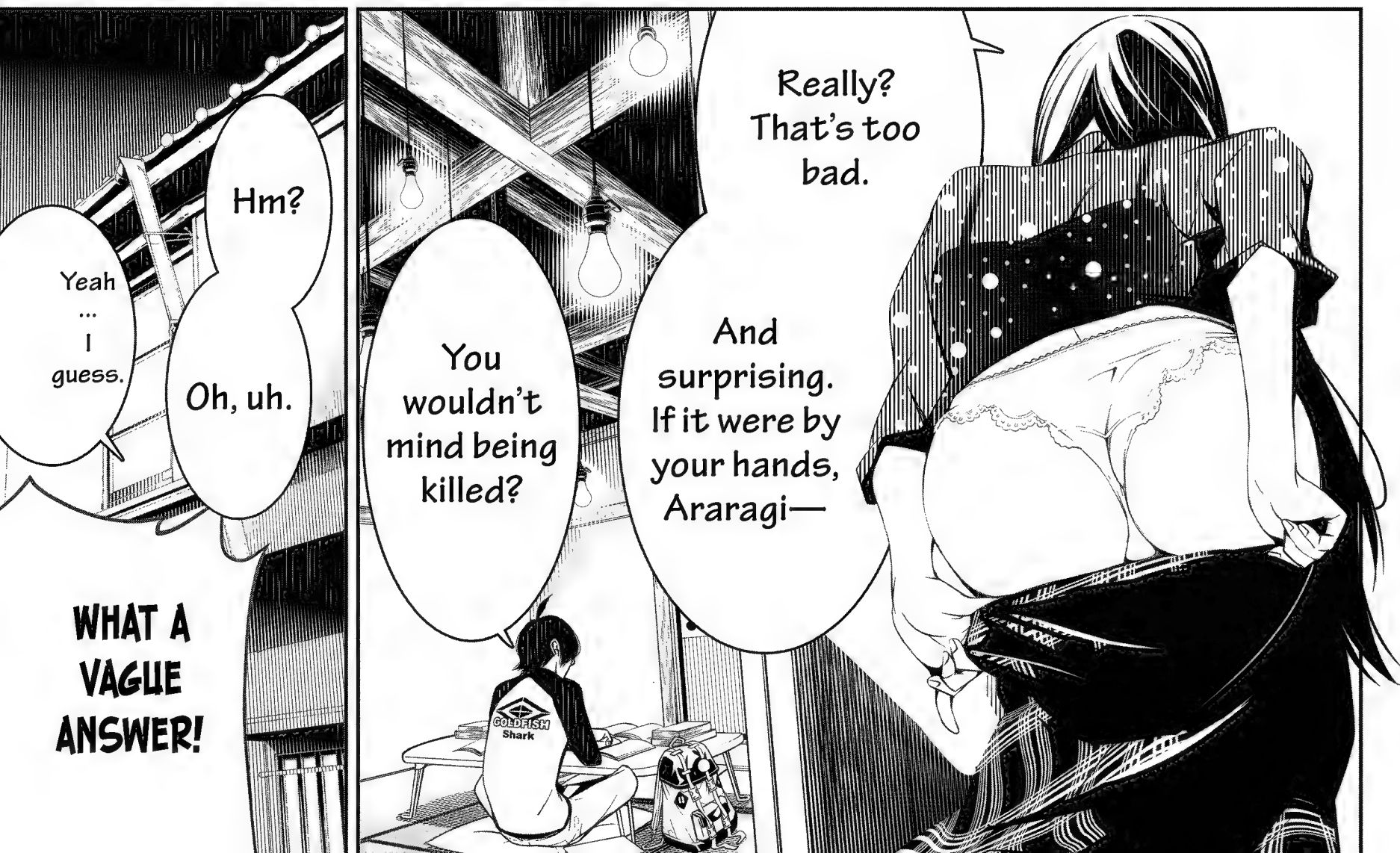
Her deep love leads to...

To be loved to death...

to be killed by the one you love—could there be any better way to die?

I'D RATHER PASS ON A TWISTED LOVE LIKE THAT!!

Nov 29 Premiere



Really?
That's too bad.

And surprising.
If it were by your hands,
Araragi—

You wouldn't mind being killed?

Hm?

Oh, uh.

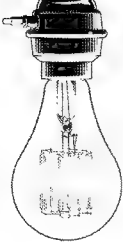
Yeah ... I guess.

WHAT A VAGUE ANSWER!



What's
the
big
deal?

If I were
to kill you,
Araragi,



I sup-
pose I
would
mind,
actually.

**FOLLOWED
BY A
VAGUE
REFUSAL!!**



Well,
um...
yes.



What?

I won't
have
that.



**NO
MATTER
WHO KILLS
ME IN WHAT
WAY, ANYTHING
IS BETTER
THAN GETTING
KILLED BY
YOU!**

NO!

I would be
by your side
during
your final
moments.
Isn't that
romantic?

May 3 Premiere

© 2004

If anyone
ever kills
you,
Araragi...

Aren't
promises
meant to
be broken?

I'll kill who
did it.

TWO
INCHES
?!

HEY!
DID I
JUST SEE
A SMIRK
ON YOUR
FACE?!

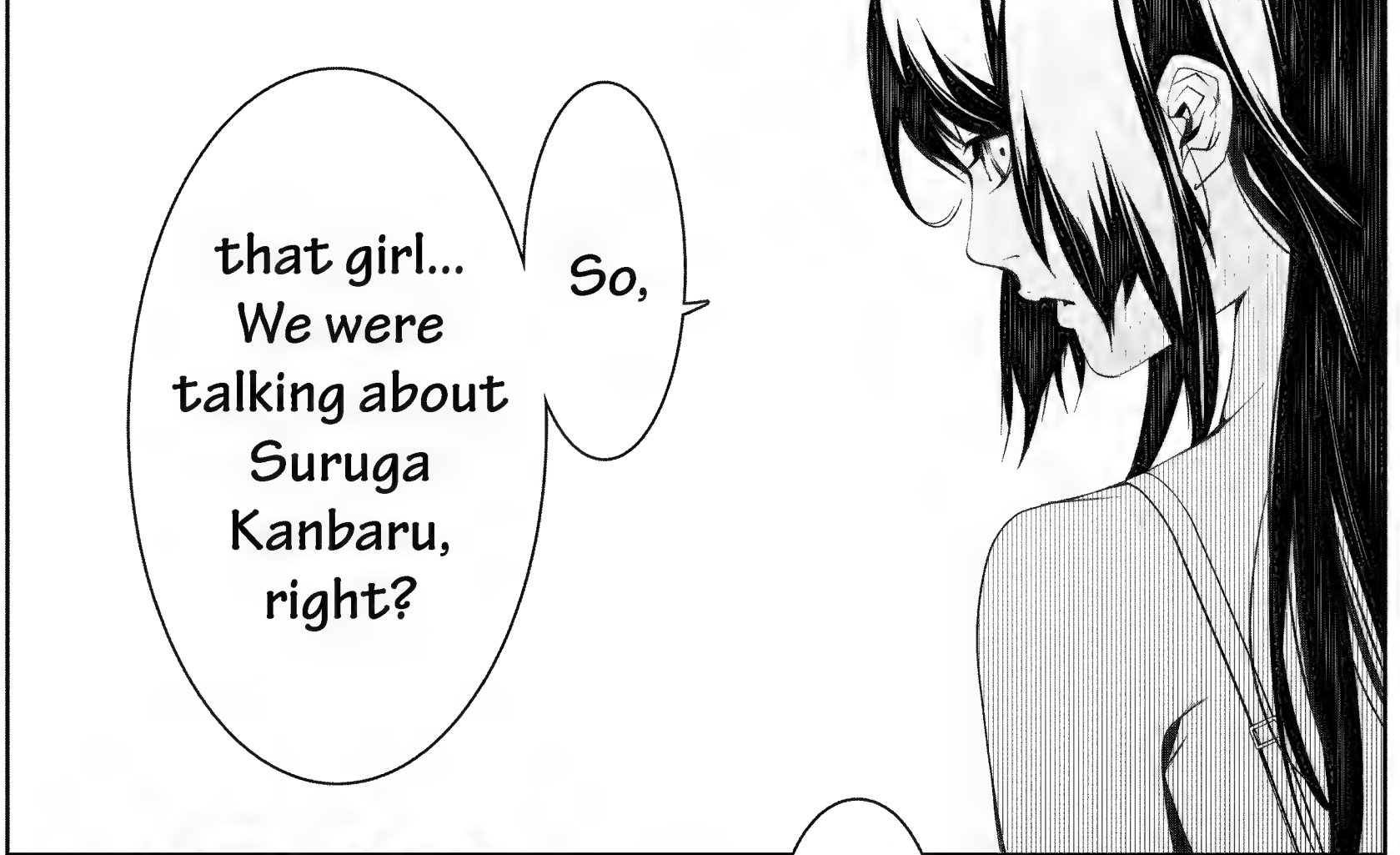
Tell me.

Do I just
need to cut
you up into
2-inch cubes?

Actually, what
does it take
to kill you,
anyway?

...

OLDFISH
Shark



that girl...
We were
talking about
Suruga
Kanbaru,
right?

So,



Yeah...

Oh
...



weirdly
following me
around for
about three
days now...

She's
been,
like
...



Hm...
I see...

...



Hey,
Araragi
?

What's
flooded
on top and
in blazes
on the
bottom?

What...?
Oh,
I know
that
one.

A
cauldron...
right?

A
rid-
dle
?

**WHAT ARE YOU
PLANNING TO DO
TO THE HOME OF
THE SCHOOL'S
BASKETBALL STAR?!**

IT'S
KAN-
BARU'S
HOUSE.

BZZT.



One
year
ago.

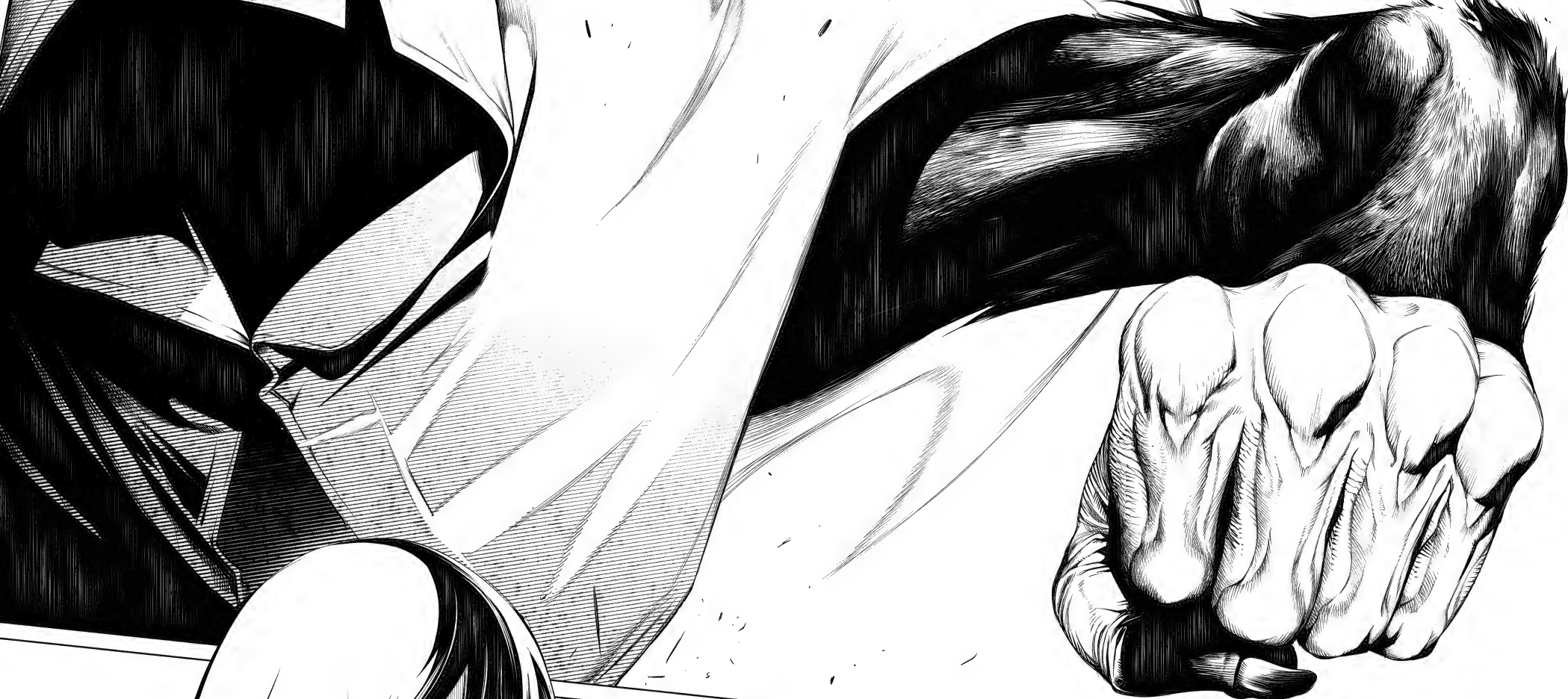
...



Oh,
I'm just
kidding...

I don't
know...
When she
says it,

it doesn't
sound
like a
joke...

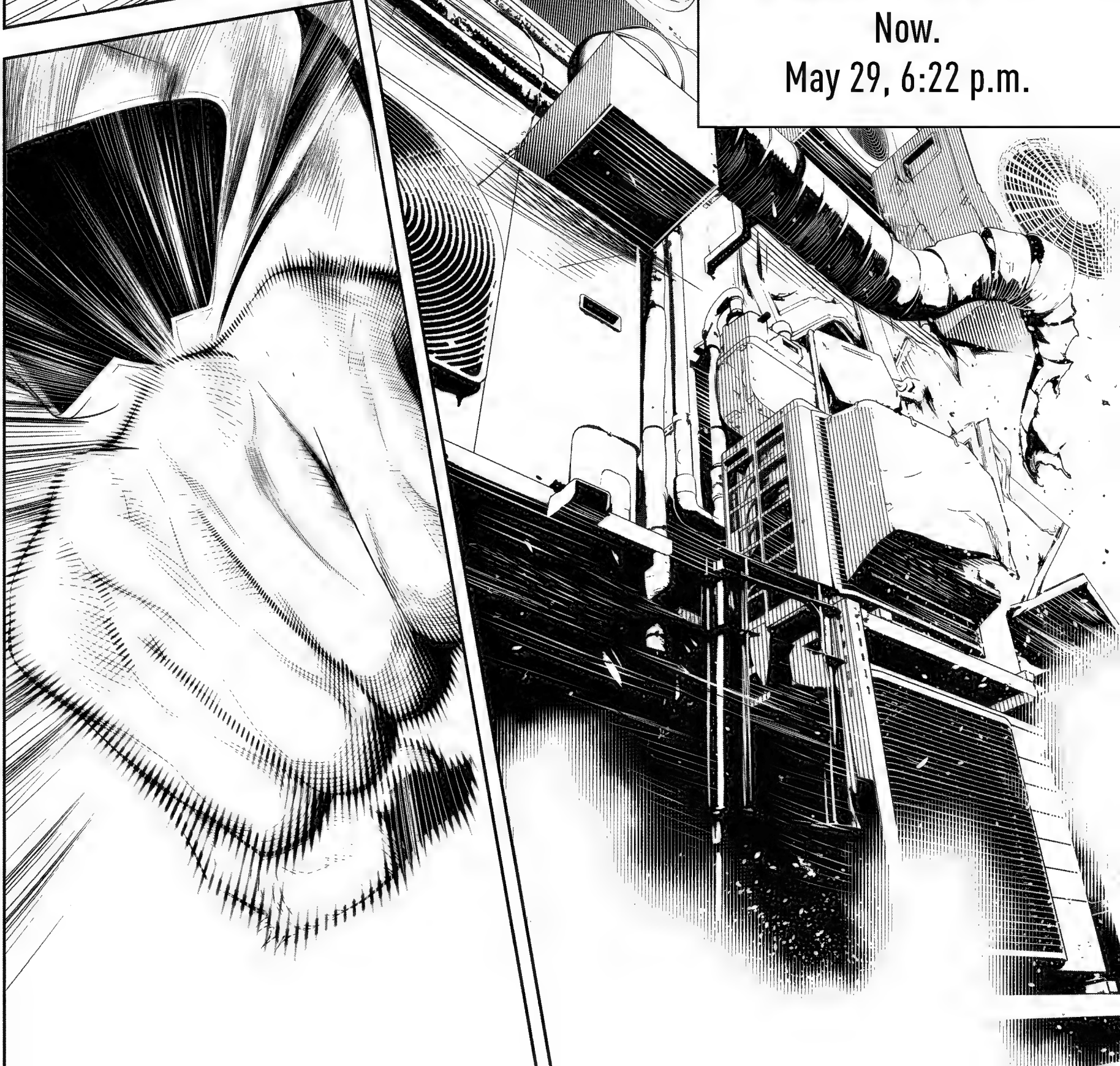


**A YEAR
BEFORE
YOU DID,
ARARAGI.**

**KANBARU
FOUND OUT
ABOUT MY
SECRET**



Now.
May 29, 6:22 p.m.







She did.

In that case... I bet she tried to save you,

knowing her.

But, of course ...

I refused.



ZSH

Now we're complete strangers.

We were, yes.

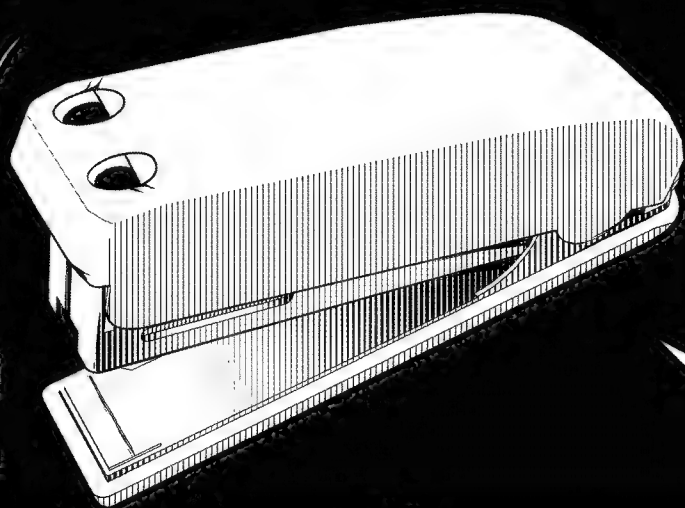
You were friends ... weren't you?

...

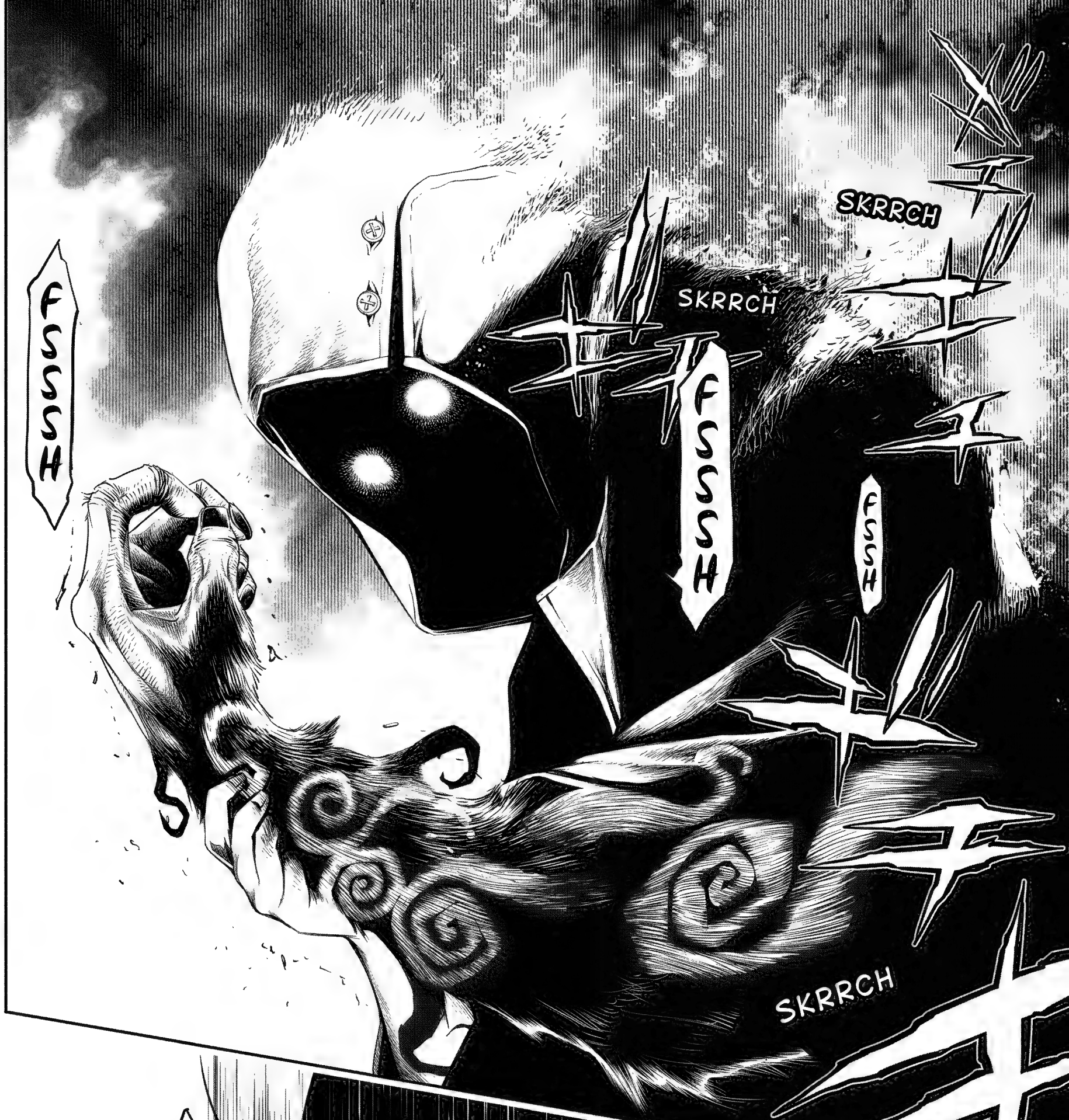
KRUMET



But you...
tried to get
involved with
me anyway
...



I dealt with
her in a
similar way
I dealt with
you.



Oh...



how
she
feels.

I
think
I
know

I
get
it.



That was
all our
relationship
amounted
to.

Kanbaru
never came
back.

You
wanted
to
be
me,
didn't
you?

Hey,
Kan-
baru.



嬰 *gataari*

物 *mono*
SURUGA monkey 4

化 *bake*

化
bake

物
mono

SURUGAmonkey

4

語
gatari



Kanbaru
looked
up to,
if I do
say so
myself.

I
was
some-
one



It
doesn't
close
right.

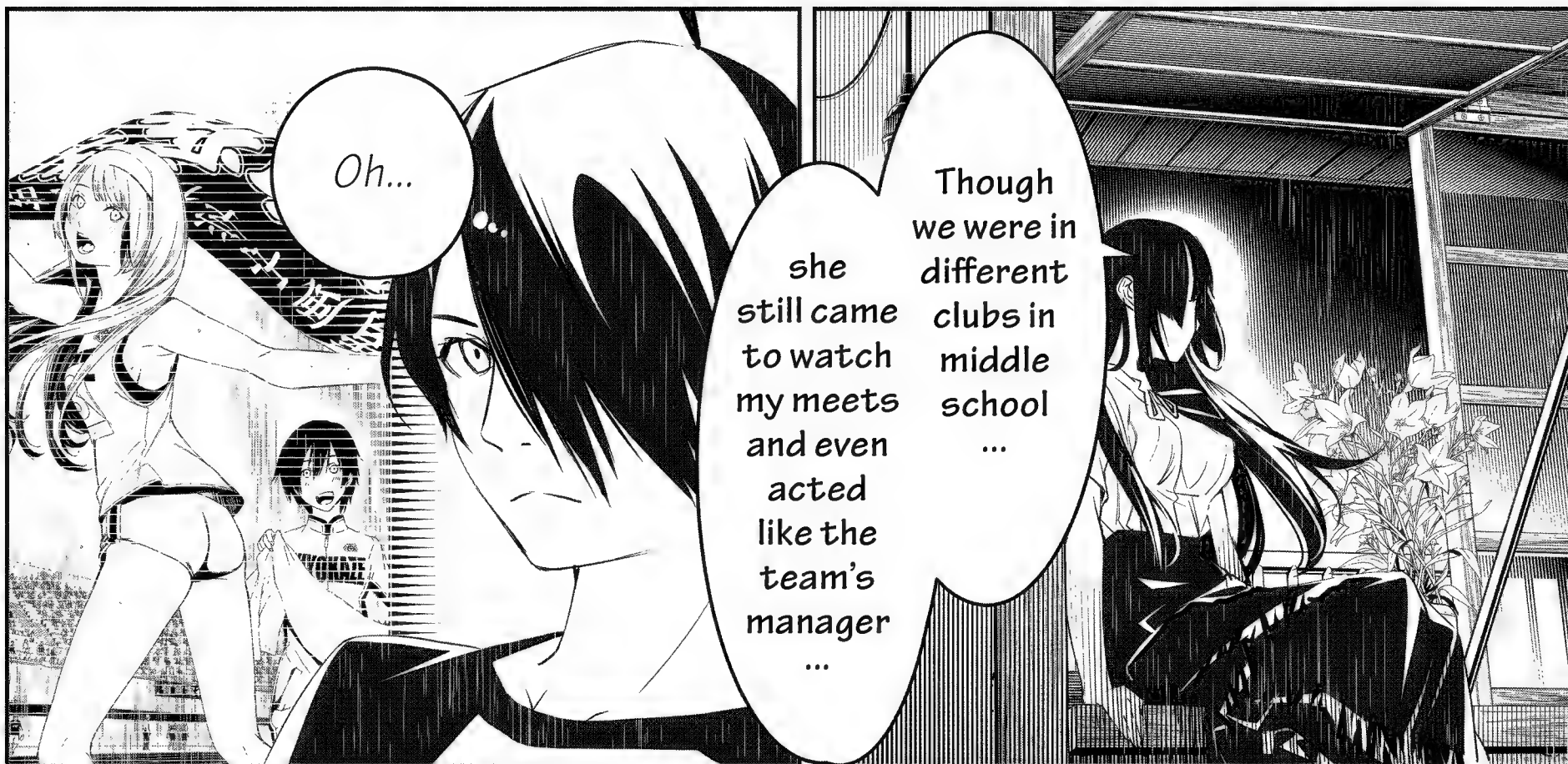
Do you
want to
try?
Actually, I'd
prefer if you
broke it.
With the
money you'd
have to pay us,
we'd be able
to fix it.

First
off,
close
the door,
at least
when you're
changing.



hasn't
forgotten
me,
after all.

Yes...
it seems
that girl



Oh...

she
still came
to watch
my meets
and even
acted
like the
team's
manager
...

Though
we were in
different
clubs in
middle
school
...



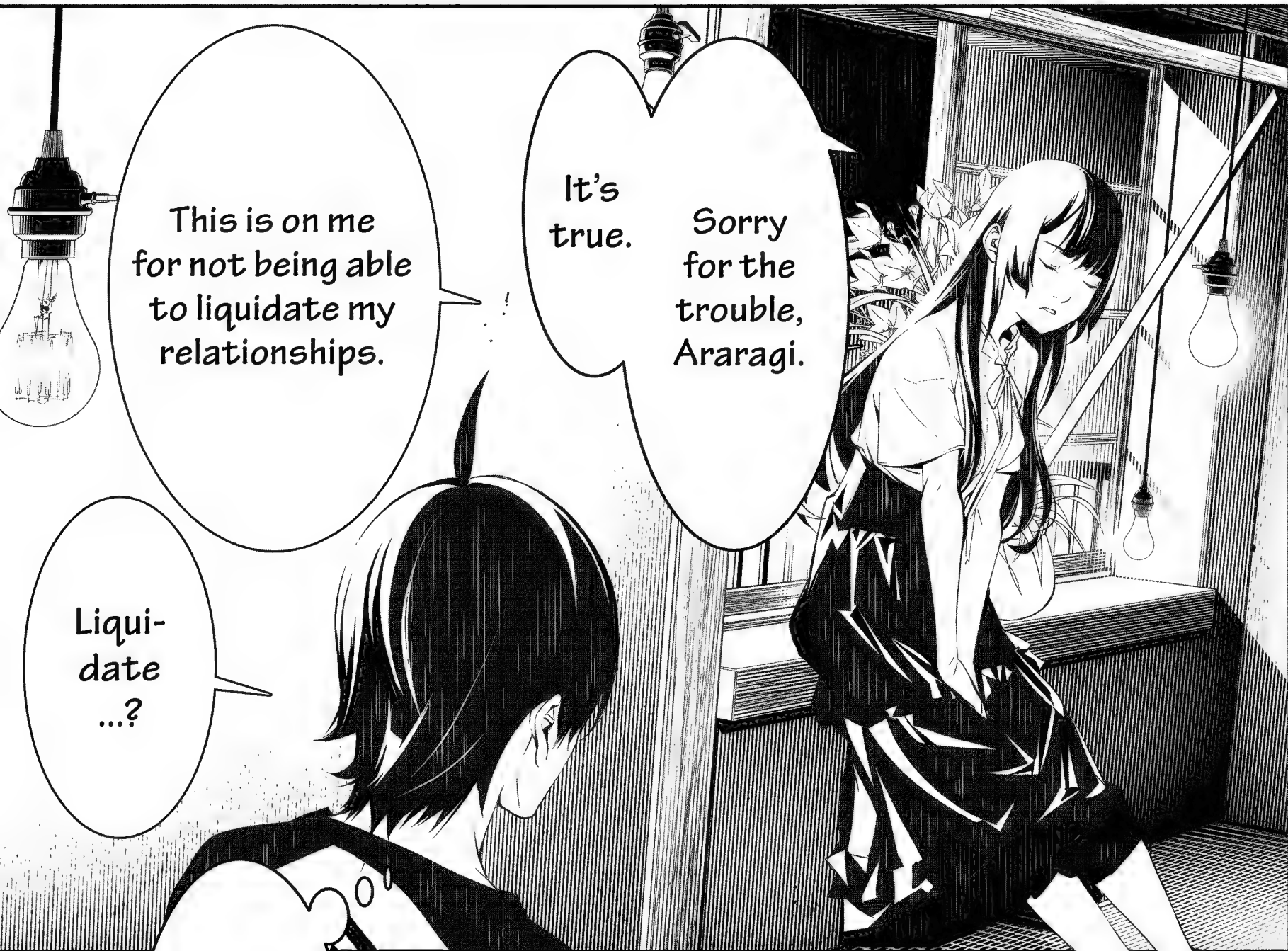
She was trying
to play the role
of a character in
*a position
like that.*

In other
words,
a part of
Senjogahara
had encouraged
that behavior.



She wanted
to always be
untouchable,
perfect,
flawless.
It must have been
during that time.

It was something
she did for her
mother, who had
fallen prey to
that cult.



This is on me
for not being able
to liquidate my
relationships.

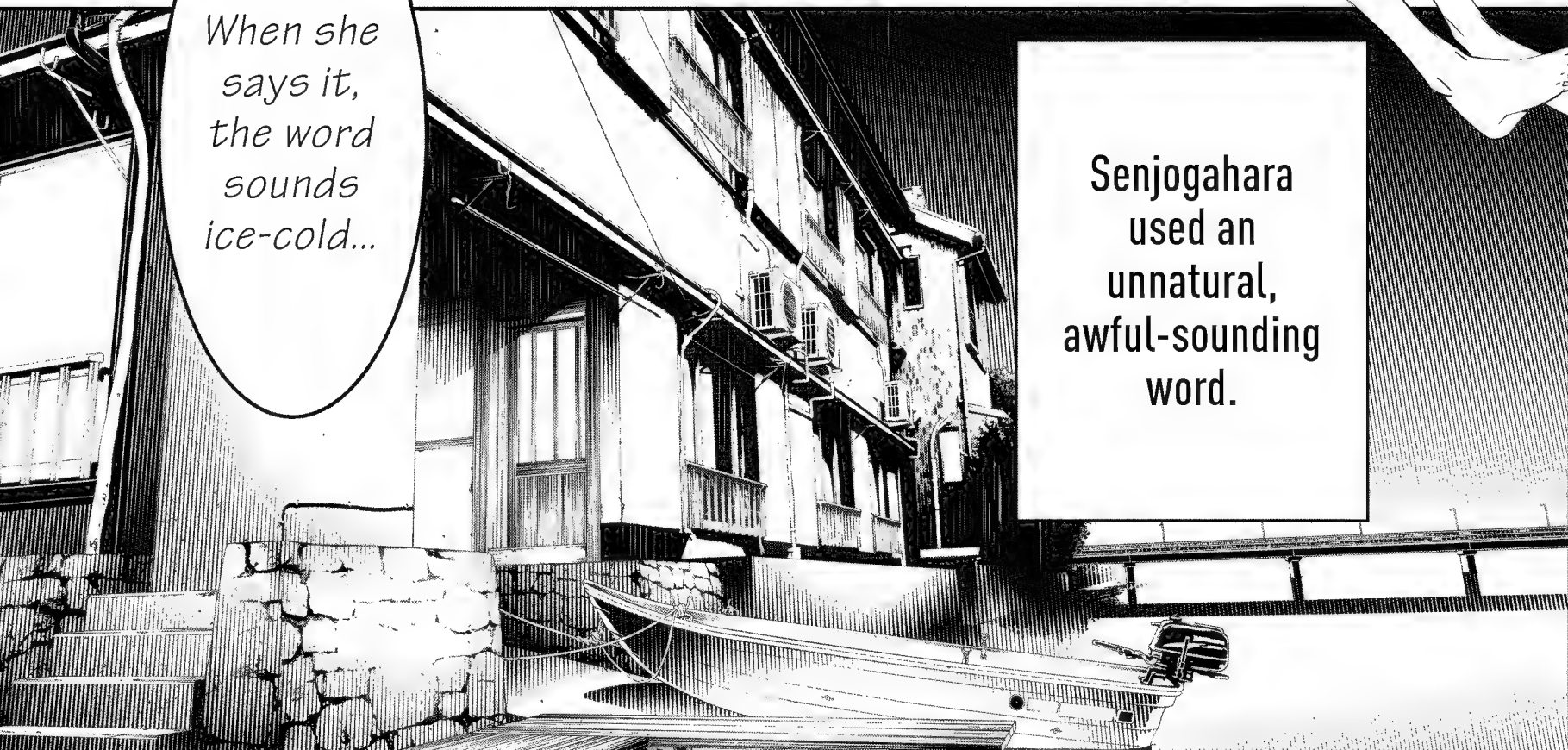
It's
true.

Sorry
for the
trouble,
Araragi.

Liqui-
date
...?

When she
says it,
the word
sounds
ice-cold...

Senjogahara
used an
unnatural,
awful-sounding
word.



May

日/SUN	月/MON	火/TUE	水/WED	木/THU	金/FRI
30	1 赤口	2	3	4	5
7 赤口	8 先勝 <i>Senjogahara falls</i>	9 大安 <i>Senjogahara Go to see</i>	10	11 赤口	12 先勝
14 先勝 <i>Snail</i> <i>Start dating Senjogahara</i>	15 大安	16 先勝 <i>Someone begins stalking me</i>	17 赤口	18 先勝	19 友引 <i>First study session</i>
21 大安	22 赤口	23 先勝	24 大安	25 先勝	26 友引
28 先勝	29 赤口	30 先勝	31 友引		

We started dating five days ago, and the stalking started three days ago. So the timing seems to work out.

Kanbaru must have heard we're going out.



I really wasn't who she was after.

That much I knew, but something still didn't feel right...



That she's curious about what kind of guy Hitagi Senjogahara's boyfriend is... and she's checking me out?

so what are you trying to say?

Um ...

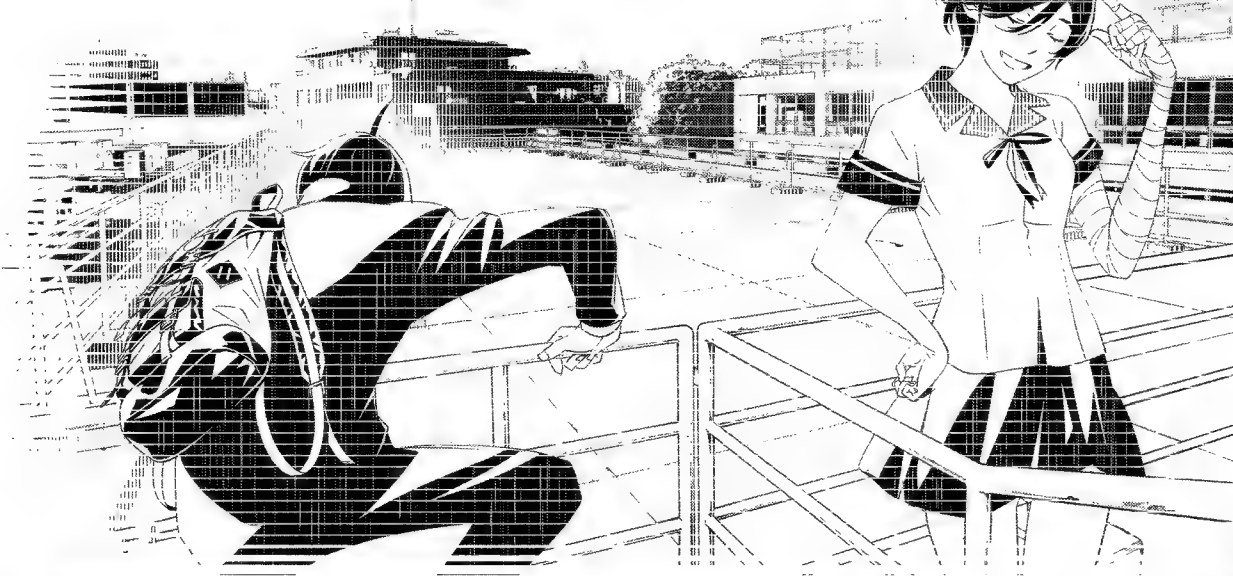


YOU
HAVE
SUCCEEDED
WHERE
SHE FAILED.



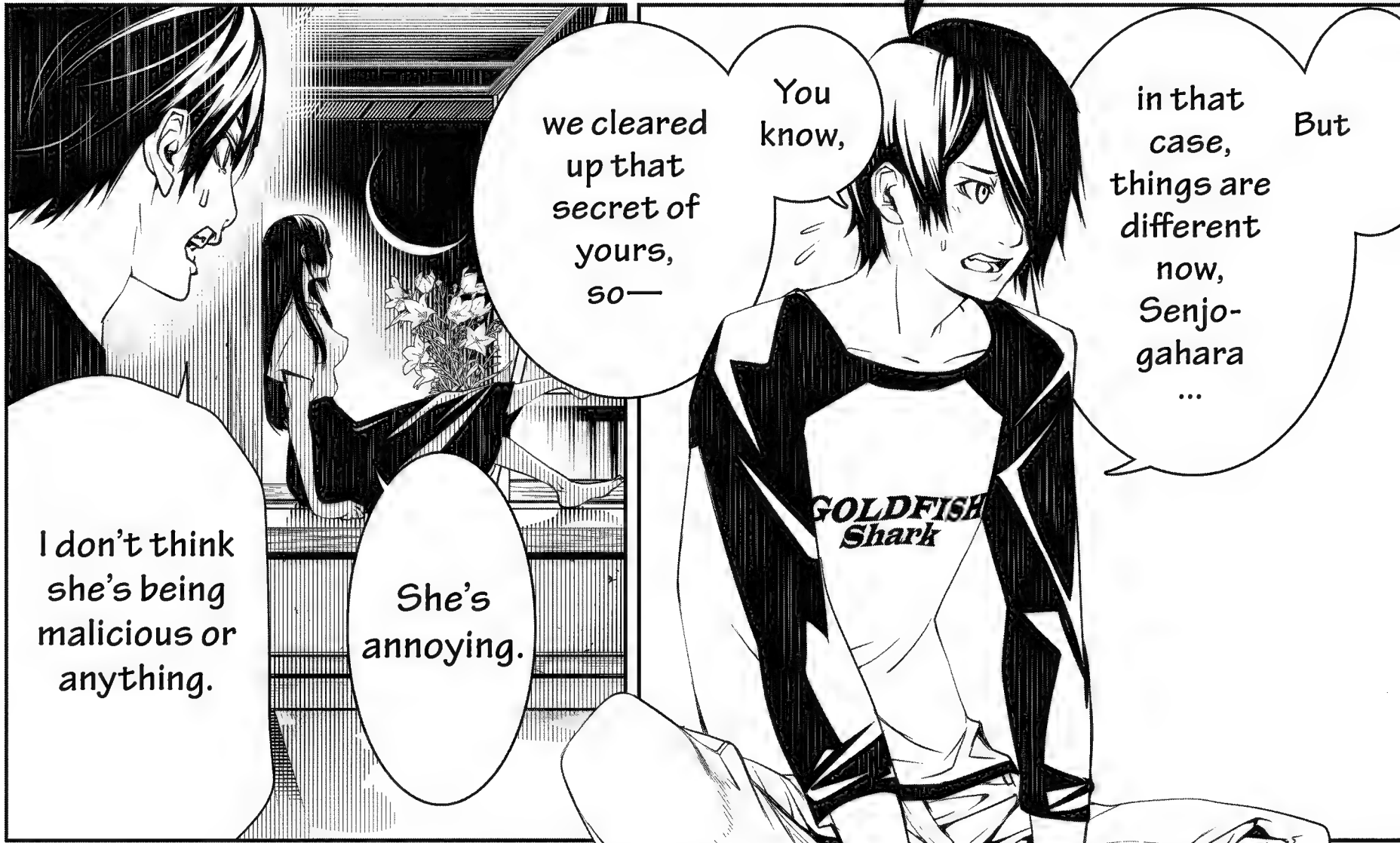
That's
more than
enough
reason...
as far as
she'd be
concerned.

...



The way she
incessantly
praised me might
have been closer
to how she really
felt than I'd
expected...

Oh...
so
that's
what
it is.



I don't think
she's being
malicious or
anything.

She's
annoying.

we cleared
up that
secret of
yours,
so—

You
know,

in that
case,
things are
different
now,
Senjo-
gahara
...

But



Didn't I
tell you
already?

I was playing
a character
back then.





With that,
Senjo-
gahara
put an
end to our
conversa-
tion.

That's how
I've decided to
live my life.



I
wonder



what
happened
between

Kanbaru
and
Senjo-
gahara
...

that dealing
with her in a
“similar way”
wasn’t enough
...

I have a
feeling

I dealt
with her in a
similar way
I dealt with
you.

カサカサ KSHT

カサカサ KSHT

URP

BLR
GH

Since
Kanbaru
deeply
admired and
respected
her,

I bet
Senjogahara’s
rejection was
hair-raisingly
intense—
completely
different from
the one I’d
experienced.



at this school
who knows
about this is
the health
teacher,
Harukami.

In other
words...
you're the
second
to
know.

The only other
person at this
school who
knows about
this is the
health teacher,
Harukami...

Senjogahara
once told me
that the only
other person

You've
no-
ticed,
right
?

The
secret
about
my
body.

...



She's
incredibly
fast,
but...

...

How did
that make
Kanbaru
feel?



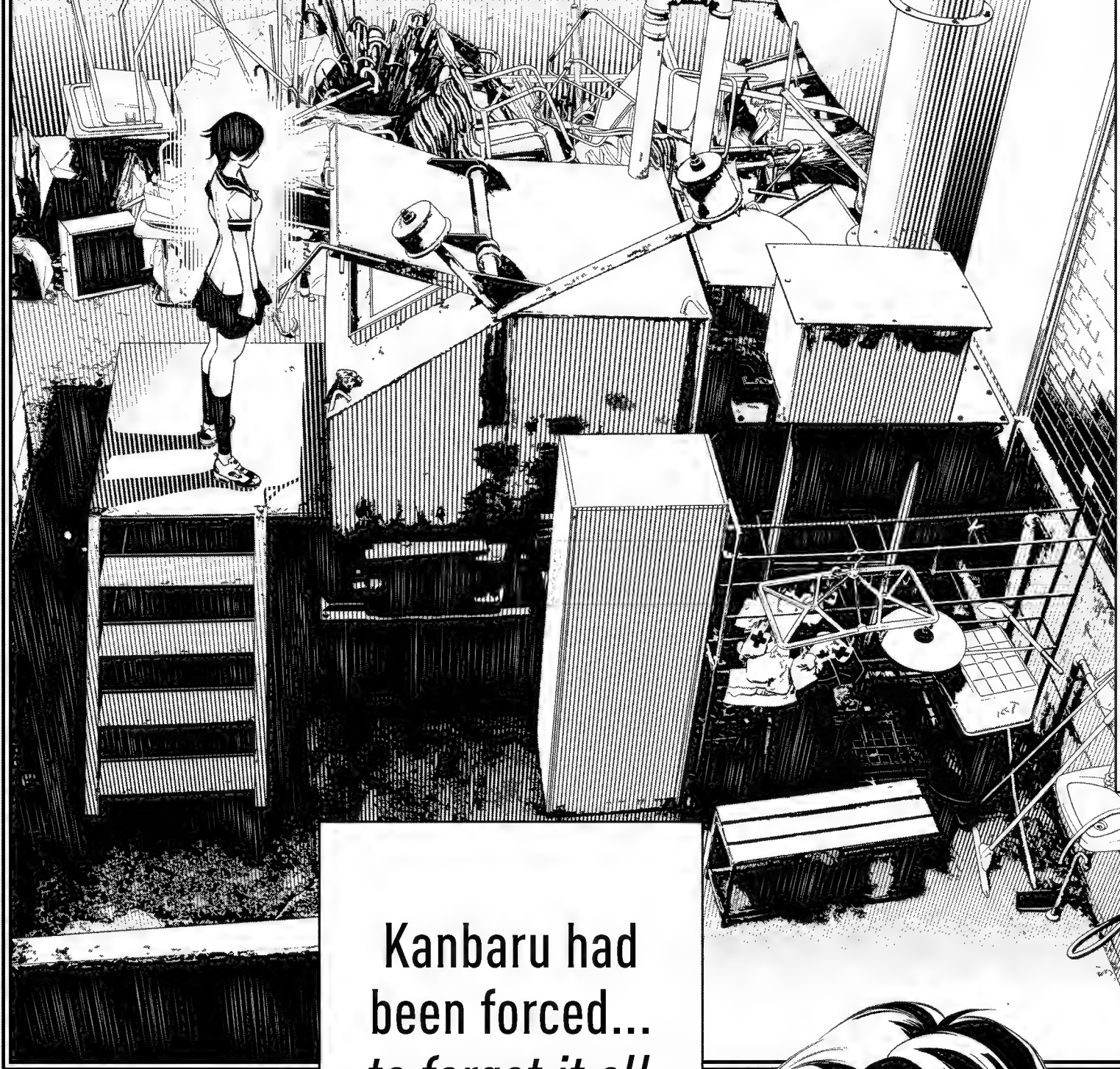
BOOM

I
did
not

under-
stand.

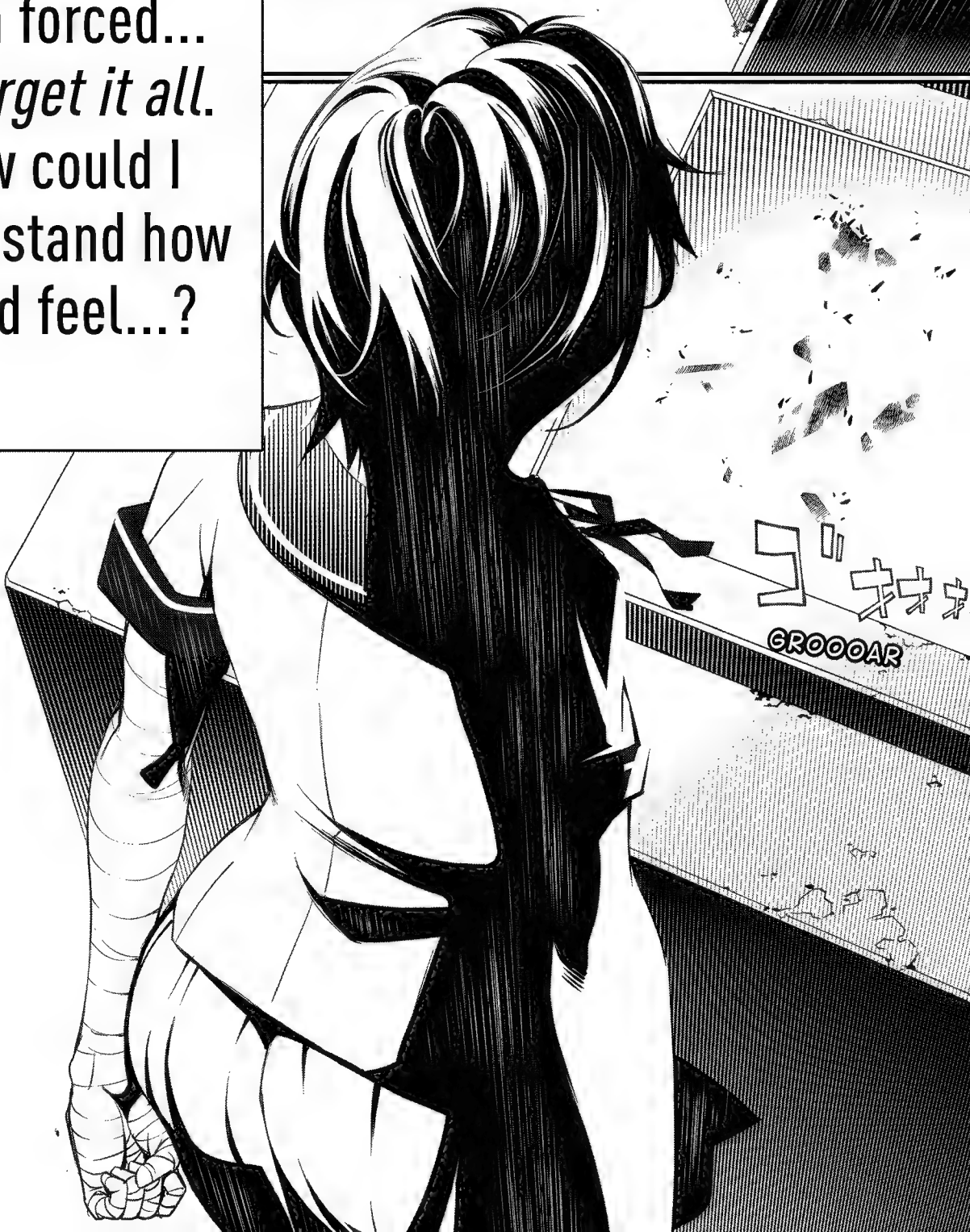


BWOOSH



*She
wouldn't
even
tolerate
her
exis-
tence.*

Kanbaru had
been forced...
to forget it all.
How could I
understand how
she'd feel...?



ゴ
ッ
ッ
ッ
GROOOAR



GAFWOOSH

FWOOSH

FWOOSH



She
still
moves
too
quickly
to see...

She only
has two
attack
patterns.
She either
jumps in
with a
straight
or a hook
...

SKRRK

SKRRK



But
no
matter
how
quick
she is,

SUPERSONIC



she isn't
faster
than the
speed of
sound.



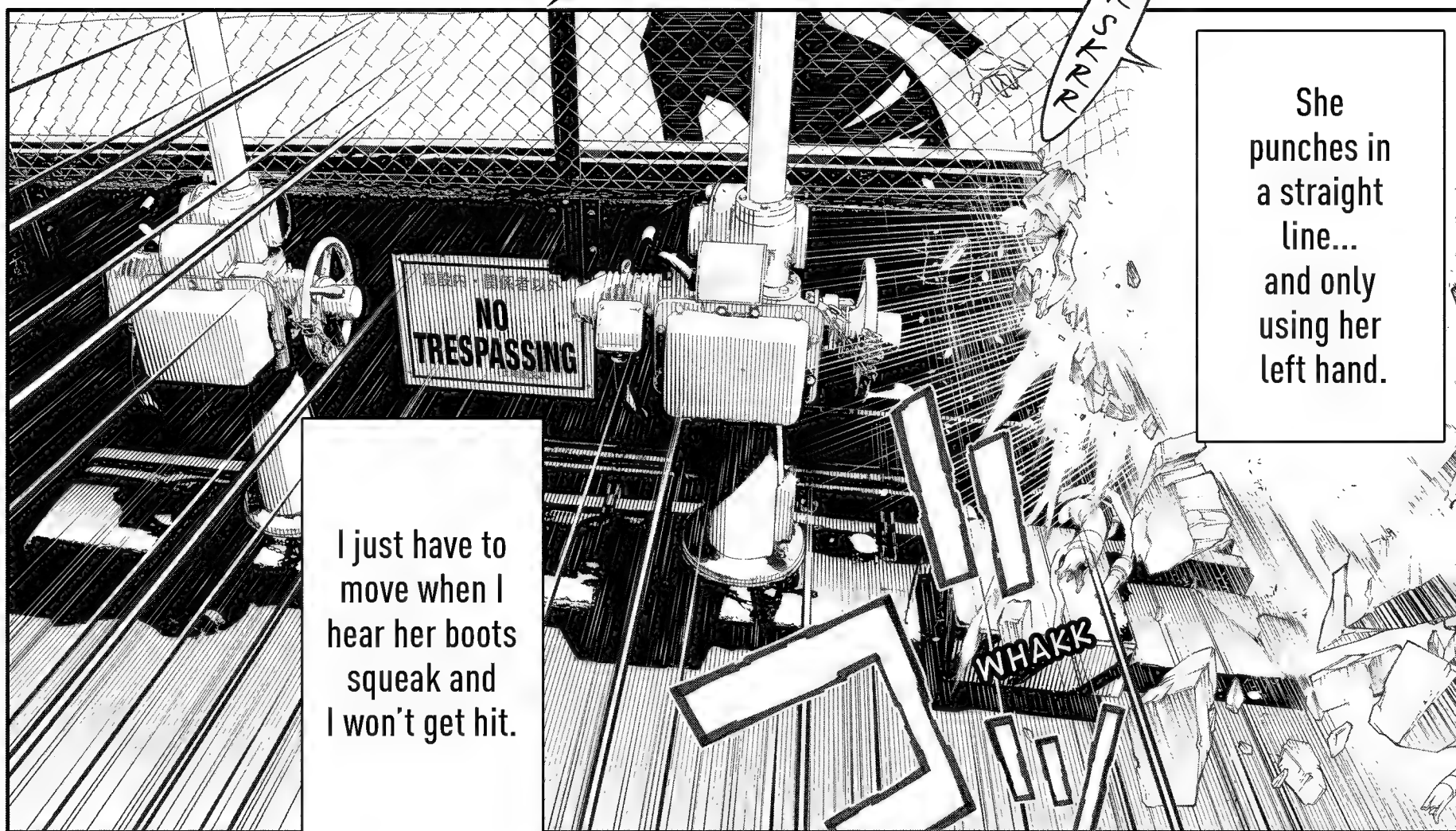


They
squeak every
time she
throws a
punch.

Though
showing up
in rubber
boots was
a total
mistake.

Maybe
she's
trying to
hide her
identity
...?

BOMF



I just have to
move when I
hear her boots
squeak and
I won't get hit.

She
punches in
a straight
line...
and only
using her
left hand.

RTSRTS

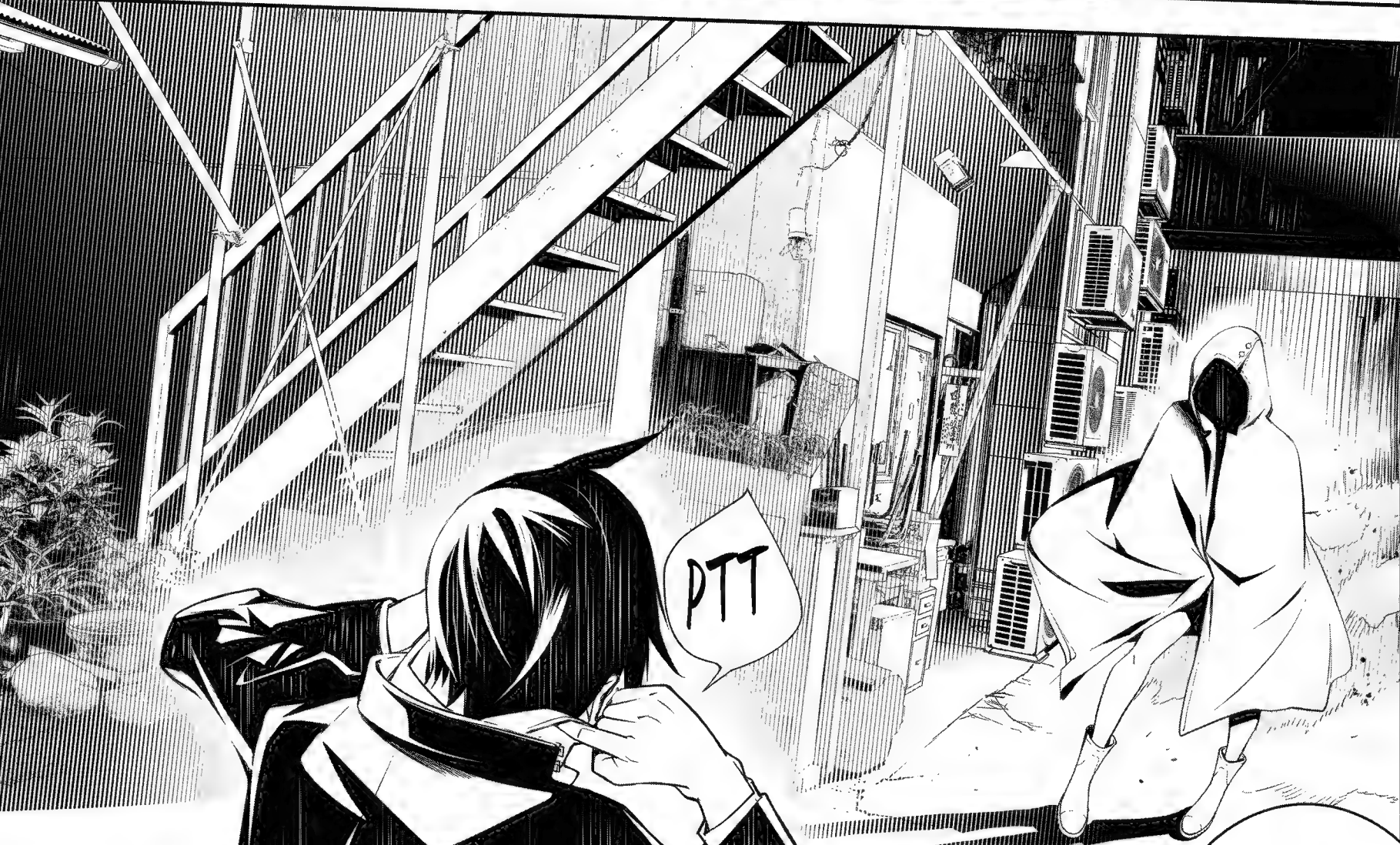
WHACK



**KAN-
BARU.**



TWITCH



PTT

If you're
then I have Kanbaru,
no reason to
fight you...

how-
ever.





butt into
problems
like this...

I
probably
shouldn't

and
doesn't
need to,
huh...

She
says
she
won't
go
back



Senjo-
gahara's
not the
type who
can act
selfishly
enough

to try
to get back
with an old
flame she
harshly rejected
just because
her own
misfortunes
were solved.



There's
even less
of a
reason for
me to run
away.



And so...

You're both
a little too
awkward.



I won't
give
my two
cents,
but
I will
give you
my fist.







I was lucky
that she
just so
happened
to attack
me that
day.

I let
Shinobu
drink my
blood
the day
prior,

so I was
closer to
being a
vampire
than usual.

If
that had
happened
two days
ago,
I imagine
I'd long be
immobile.



A
predict-
able,
swing-
ing

upper
hook.



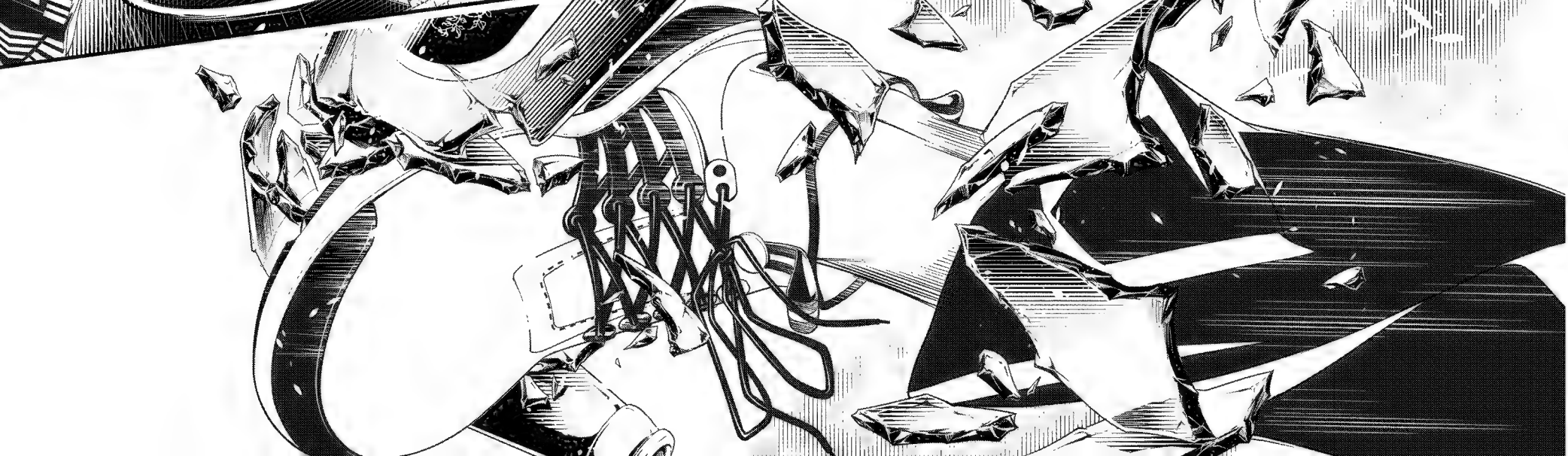
She was
staring a
hole into
me...

but
what I
went for
is...

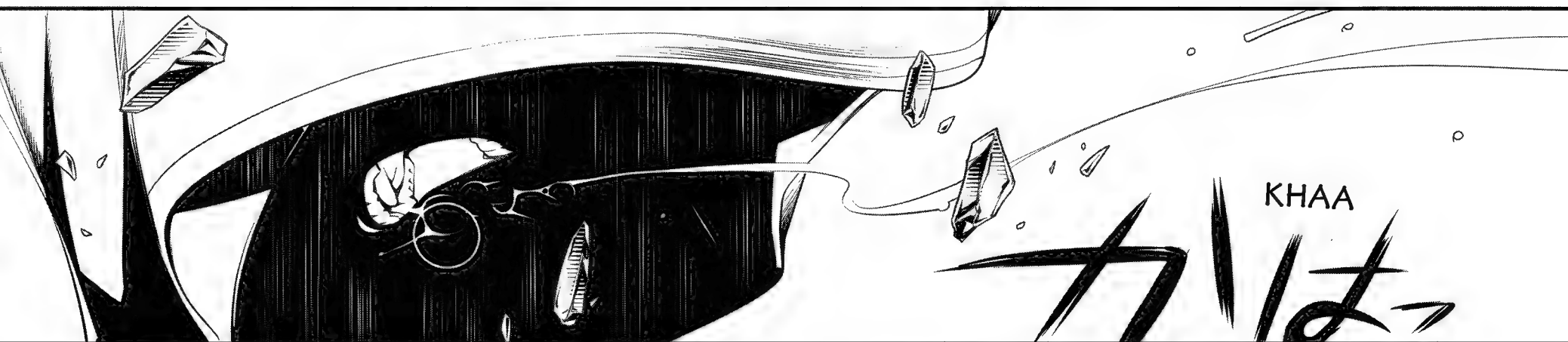
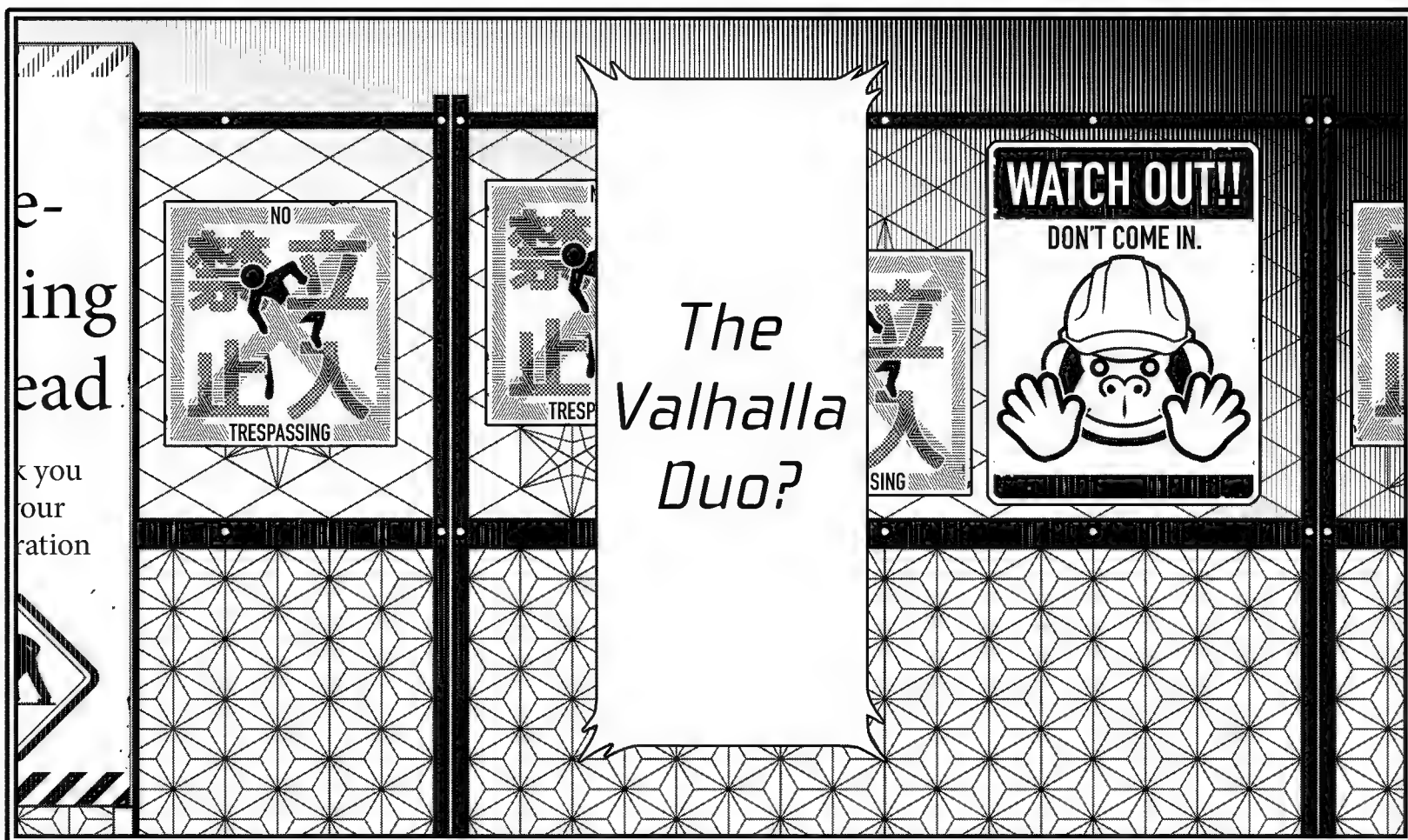


GLAAARE









10 minutes earlier.
May 29, 6:12 p.m.

Hm?
Sure.
I was just
doing
some light
studying
anyway.

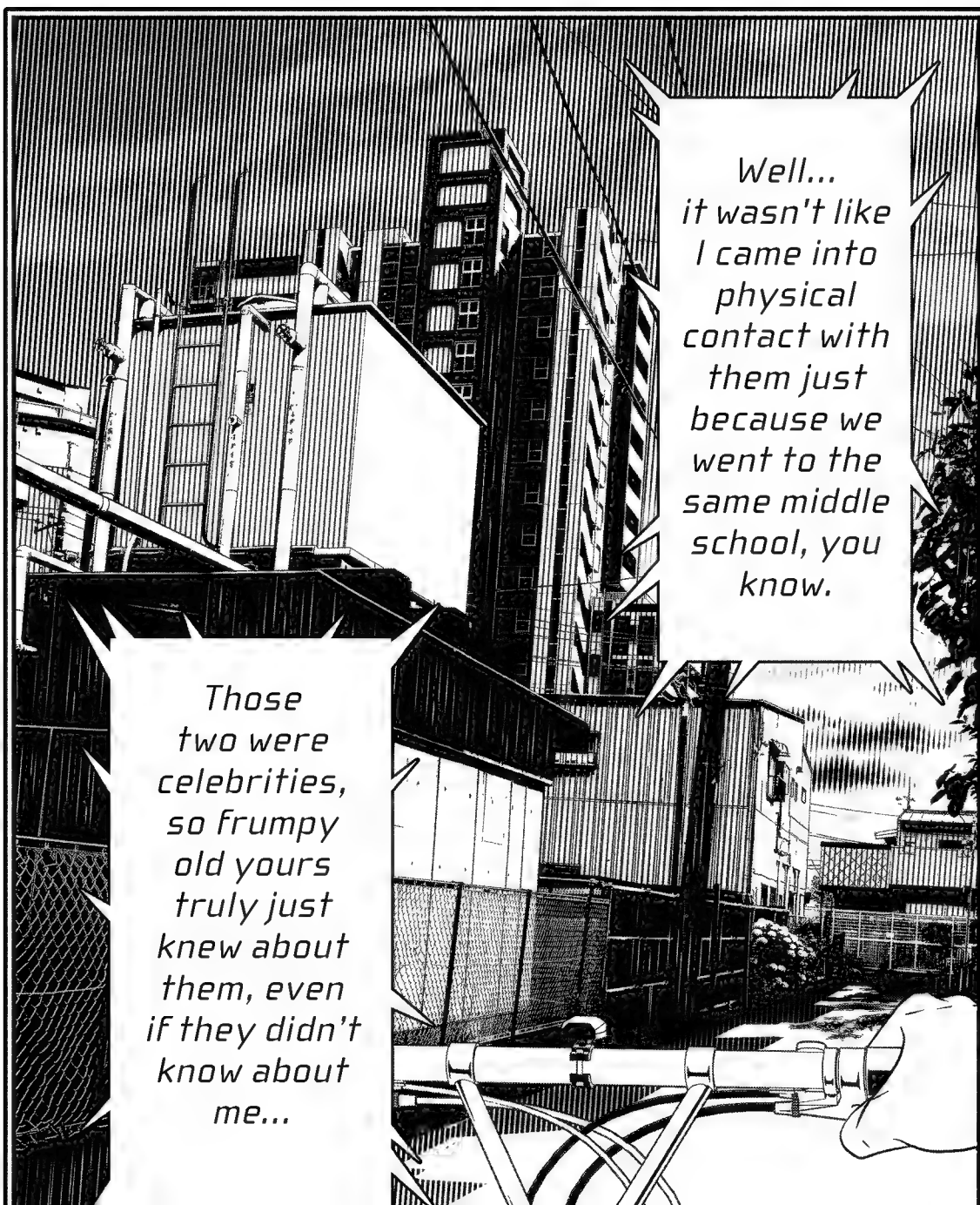
Right
before
that
raincoat
attacked
me,

I just so
happened
to be
corrob-
orating
evidence
on
Kanbaru
with
Hanekawa.



Well...
it wasn't like
I came into
physical
contact with
them just
because we
went to the
same middle
school, you
know.

Those
two were
celebrities,
so frumpy
old yours
truly just
knew about
them, even
if they didn't
know about
me...



You
men-
tioned
some-
thing
before.

You said
Senjogahara
and Kanbaru
were
called the Valhalla
Duo, right?





Though
I was moved
by Hanekawa's
humble and
off-the-mark
stance...

the term
Valhalla
apparently
comes from
Norse mythology.
It's the heavenly
hall where gods
reside, and
where the spirits
of fallen heroes
are welcome.

Plus, Kanbaru's
name starts with
the character
for "god" and
Senjogahara's
with the ones for
"battlefield."
Thus, the Valhalla
Duo.

You couldn't
hope for a more
snug fit. There
must have been
someone real
witty at school.

Kanbaru's
"baru" and
Senjogahara's
"hara" makes
"*baruhara*,"
which is
Japanese for
"Valhalla."

I see.



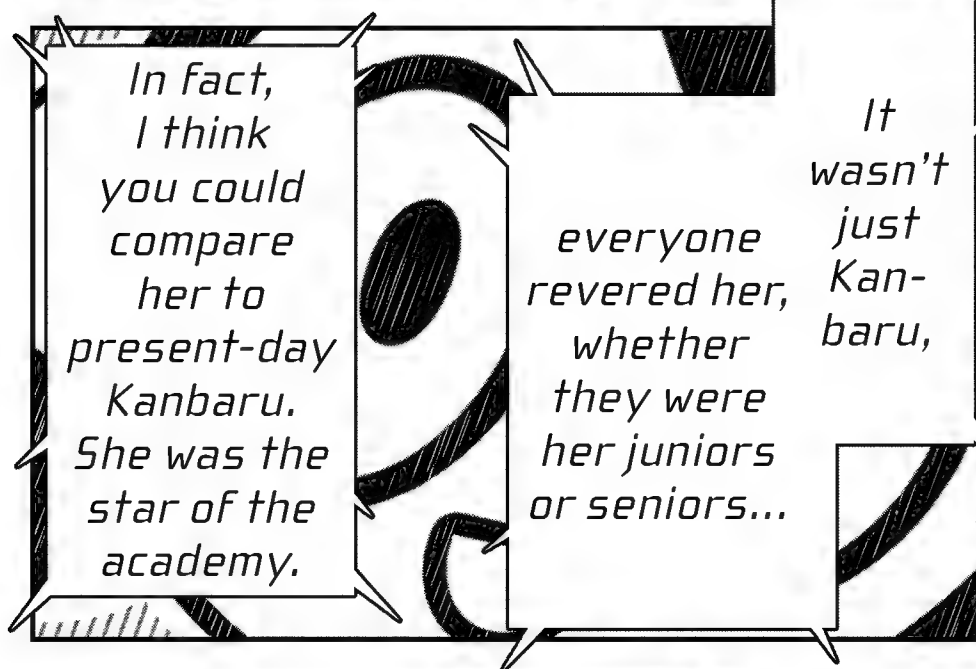


Yes.

*Senjogahara...
was different
then, right?*



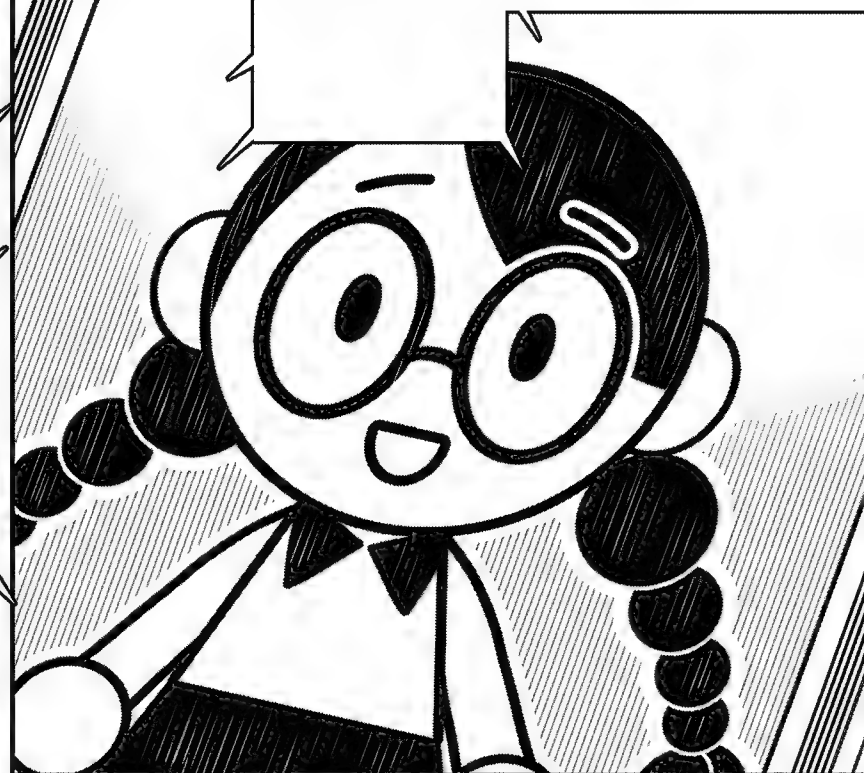
*They
were
close.*



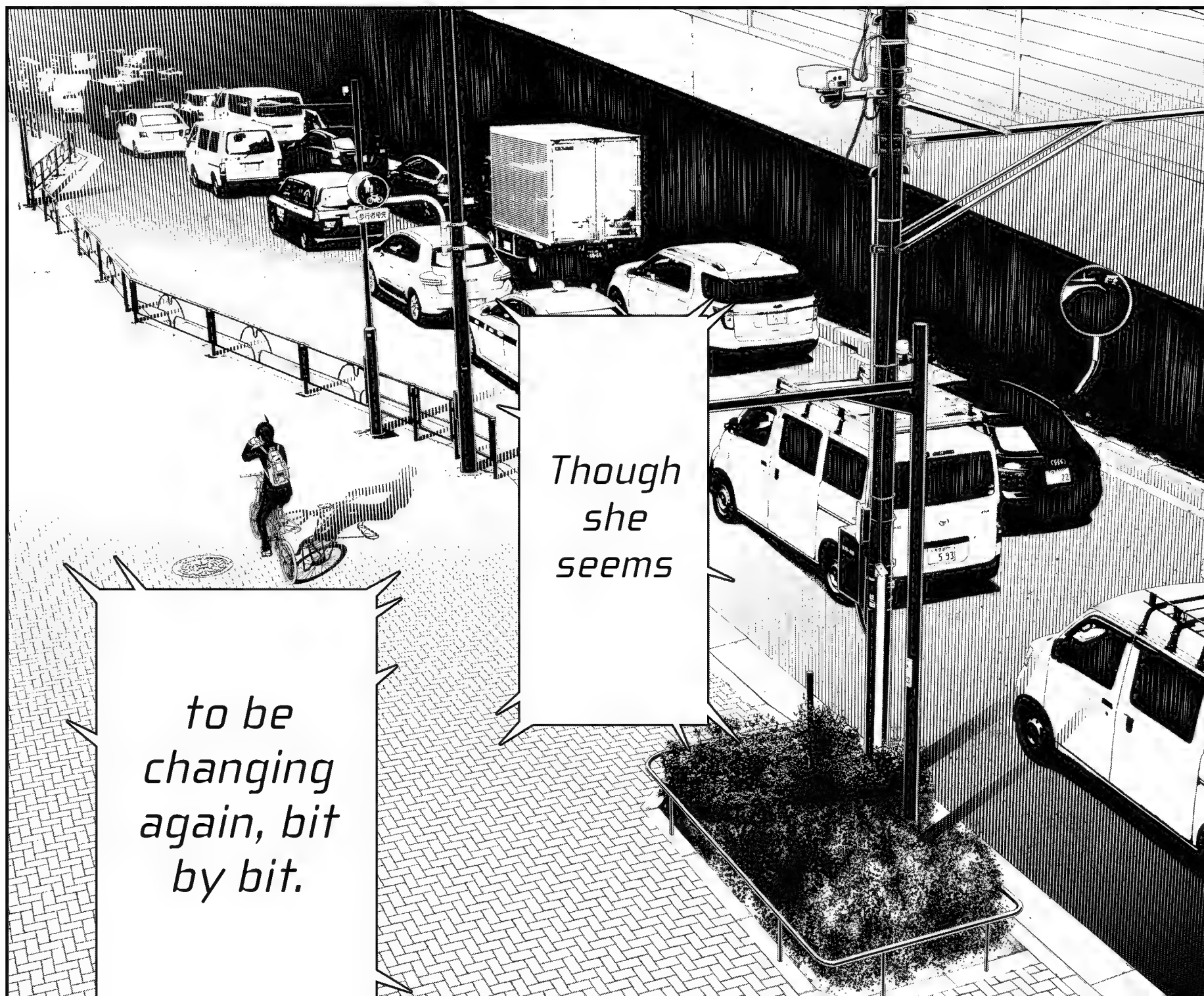
*In fact,
I think
you could
compare
her to
present-day
Kanbaru.
She was the
star of the
academy.*

*everyone
revered her,
whether
they were
her juniors
or seniors...*

*It
wasn't
just
Kan-
baru,*



*Very
close.*



*Though
she
seems*

*to be
changing
again, bit
by bit.*

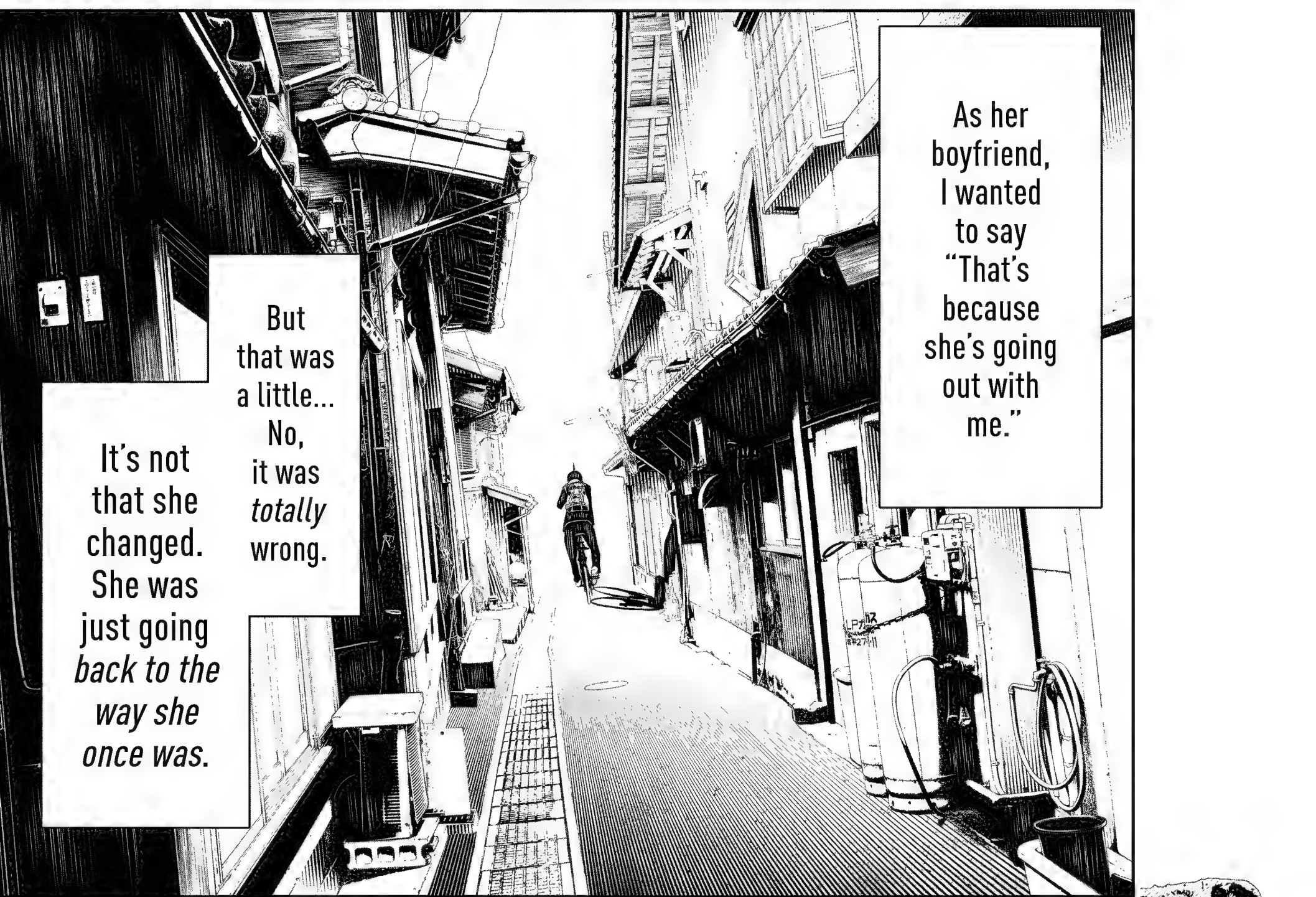


A close-up of Hitagi Senjogahara with her long black hair, holding a mobile phone to her ear. She is wearing a white shirt with a dark tie. The background is plain white.

I think
so too.

Yeah,

...



A perspective view of a narrow, paved alleyway in Senjogahara. On the left are traditional Japanese wooden buildings with tiled roofs. On the right are modern buildings with balconies and air conditioning units. A person on a bicycle is in the distance. The scene is lit with soft shadows.

It's not
that she
changed.
She was
just going
*back to the
way she
once was.*

But
that was
a little...
No,
it was
totally
wrong.

As her
boyfriend,
I wanted
to say
"That's
because
she's going
out with
me."

but the
original
Hitagi
Senjo-
gahara.

Not the Hitagi
with a forcefield
around her and
acting like a
superhuman...

To who she
was before she
met the crab
aberration—
and even
before that.



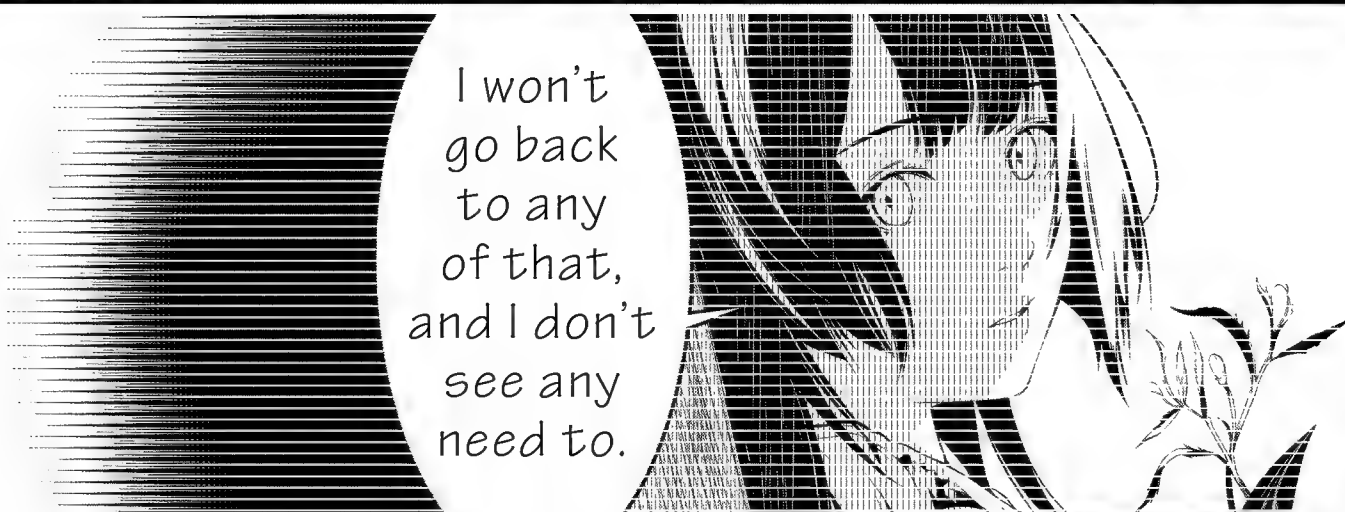


So...

So
that's
why I
couldn't
help
think-
ing,

*I want
Senjo-
gahara to
find what
she lost.*

*I want her
to take back
what she
threw away.*



I won't
go back
to any
of that,
and I don't
see any
need to.



there
isn't much
of her left.



Even
if...



'Cuz
that

*is
some-
thing
...
I can
never
do
...*



I'm
really
aiming

for those
beer bottles
scattered on
the ground...



We might
call ourselves
a couple, but
I don't think
either of us
knows what it
really means
to "go out."

and
those
shards
!!

Heh
...

Heh
...
Heh
...

Heh
...

ZMM

ZMM

ZMM

I'll
see it
through
to the
end.

then
fine.

If *this* is a
byproduct
of dating—
something
that comes
with the
territory—



by
keeping
her from
rushing
forward.
I'll
take
out
her
legs
...!!

I'll
start









*That's
why I
ran you
into this
place.*

*I
knew
it.*

SKRRR

Reason
would
state...
she
picks the
latter.

The ground
is covered
with shards
of glass,
and the wall
has plenty
of footing.

Aber-
rations
think in
a very
logical
way.

With
her special
abilities,
there is no
difference
between the
ground and
the walls!



If she's
in the air,
her ability
to sprint

won't
mean a
thing.



ZSH



so we
can
talk!!!

Sorry for
being kinda
rough... but
you've got
to calm
down

Kan-
baru
!!

ZSH





I knew
what she was
going to do...

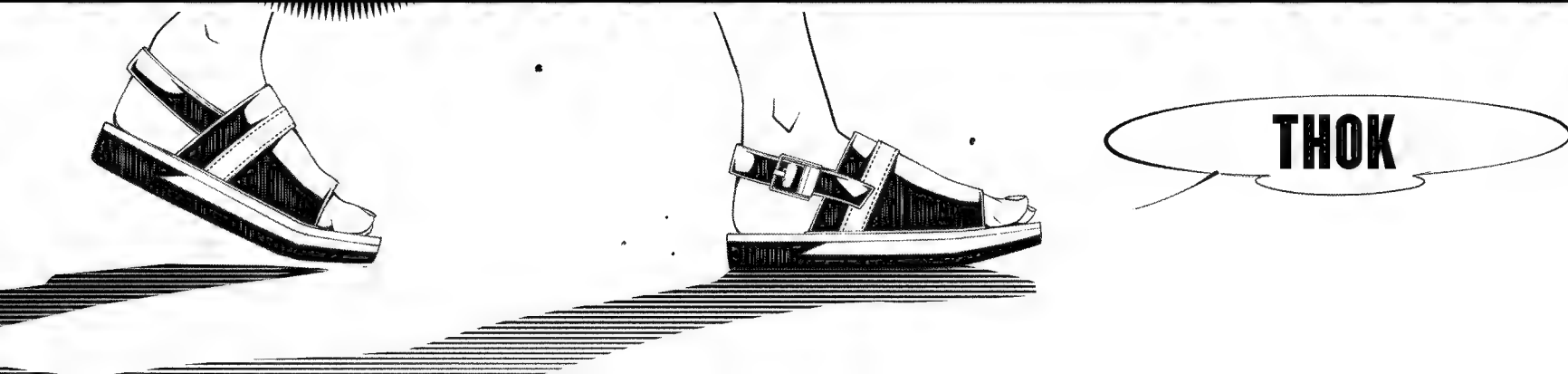
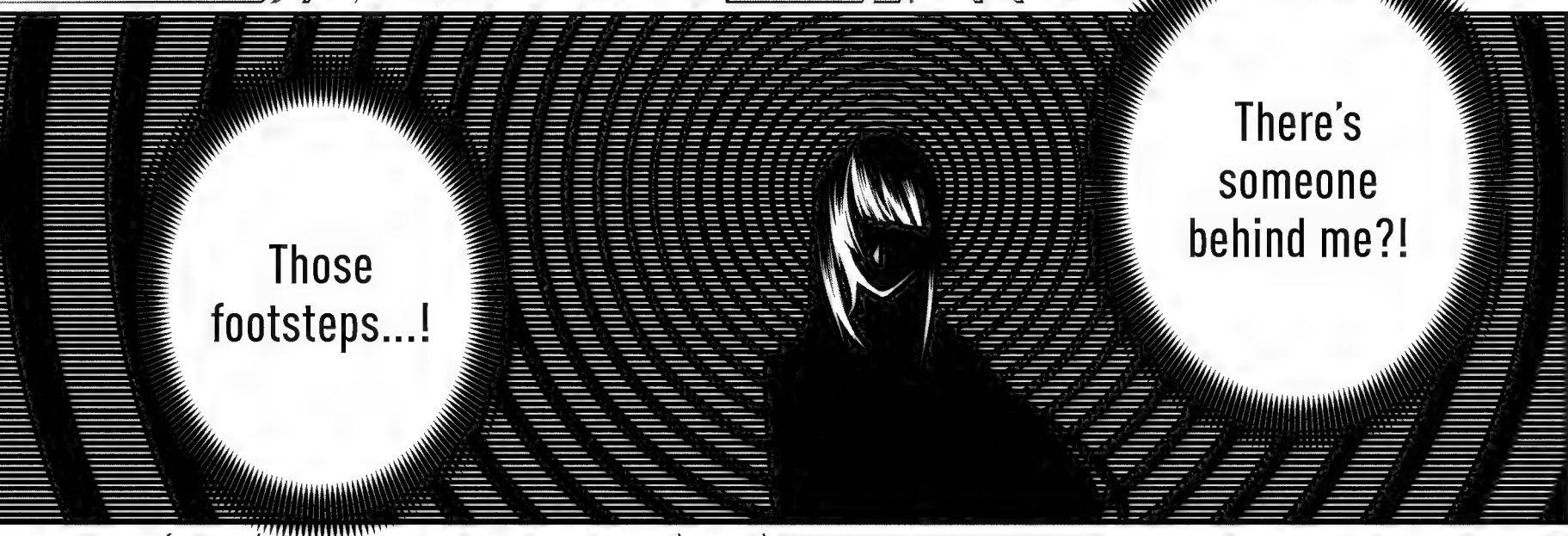
"Aberrations
are faithful
to reason."

In the blink
of an eye,

SHUDDER

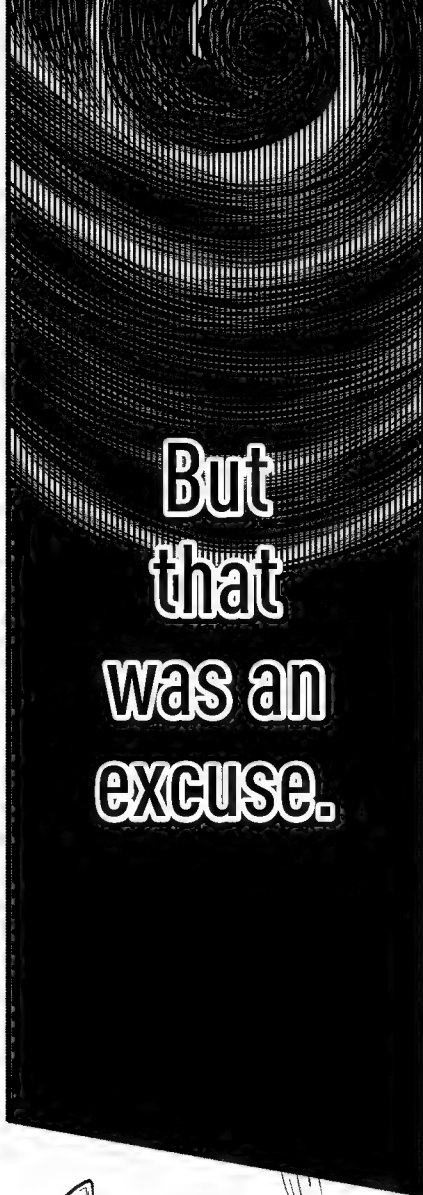


After all, we're both monsters.





BOOM



But
that
was an
excuse.

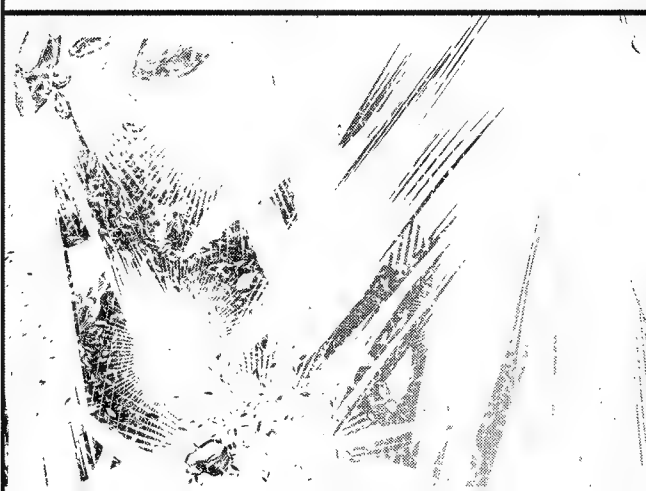


Just one
of them
would've
easily sent
a person
to the
hospital.

If I had
moved, the
fragments
would've
flown past
me like
shotgun
pellets.



was to keep her
from seeing me fight
in this form.



All I
wanted





Good evening, Araragi.

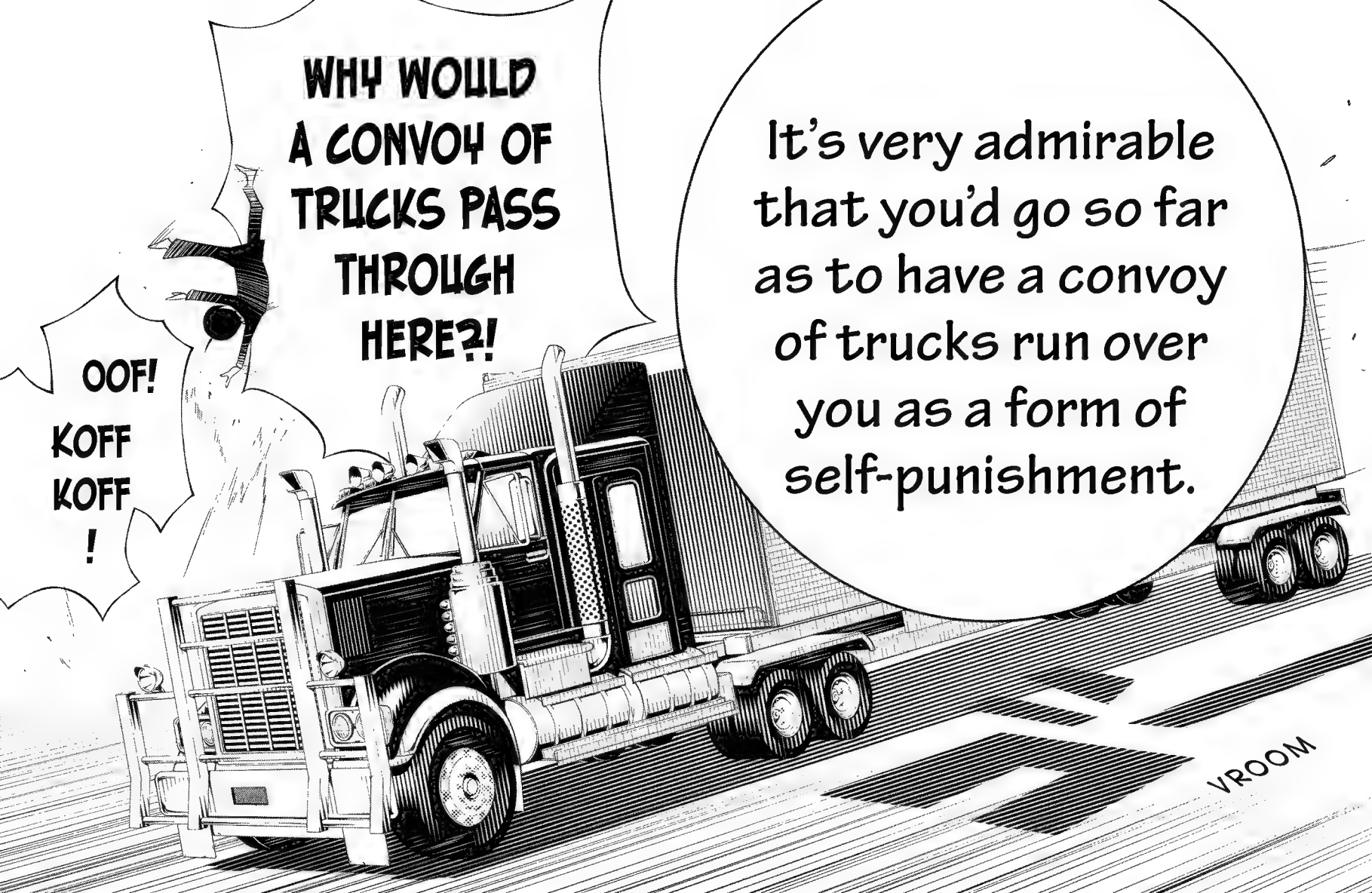
But I'll let you off easy, given how you look. You're half-forgiven.

You're very late for our second study session and didn't contact me once. You deserve to die a thousand times over.

I'd say.

Hey, Senjogahara ... it's been a while.





WHY WOULD
A CONVOY OF
TRUCKS PASS
THROUGH
HERE?!

OOF!
KOFF
KOFF
!

It's very admirable
that you'd go so far
as to have a convoy
of trucks run over
you as a form of
self-punishment.

VROOM

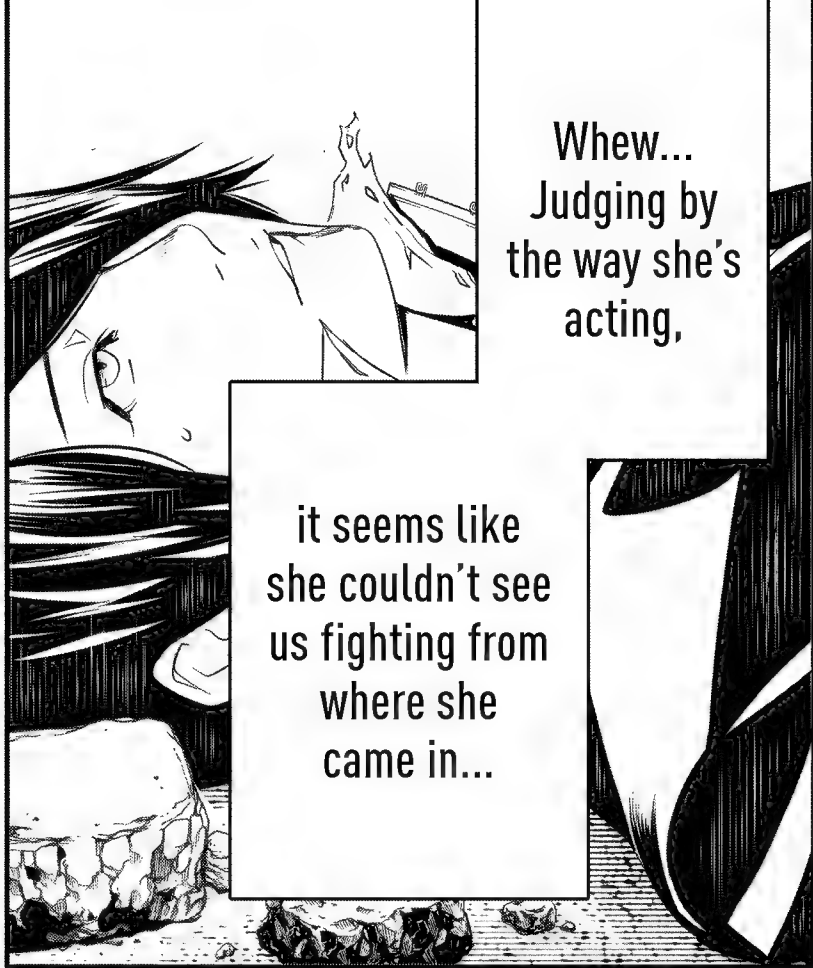


No, I just
tripped
and fell.

Just look
around. The
road's all
bumpy from
construction,
right...?

I'll start by
turning the cars
into scrap metal,
then put the
drivers through so
much pain that
they'll beg me to
finish them by
running over them
repeatedly with
a bicycle.

Do you
remember
their
license
plates?
I'll go and
avenge
you.



Whew...
Judging by
the way she's
acting,

it seems like
she couldn't see
us fighting from
where she
came in...



Then I think
I'll pay a visit
to whatever
company was
responsible
for the sloppy
construction
here. I have
a blade
delivery for
them.

It's fine...
I'll be able
to move
if I just
rest a bit
longer...

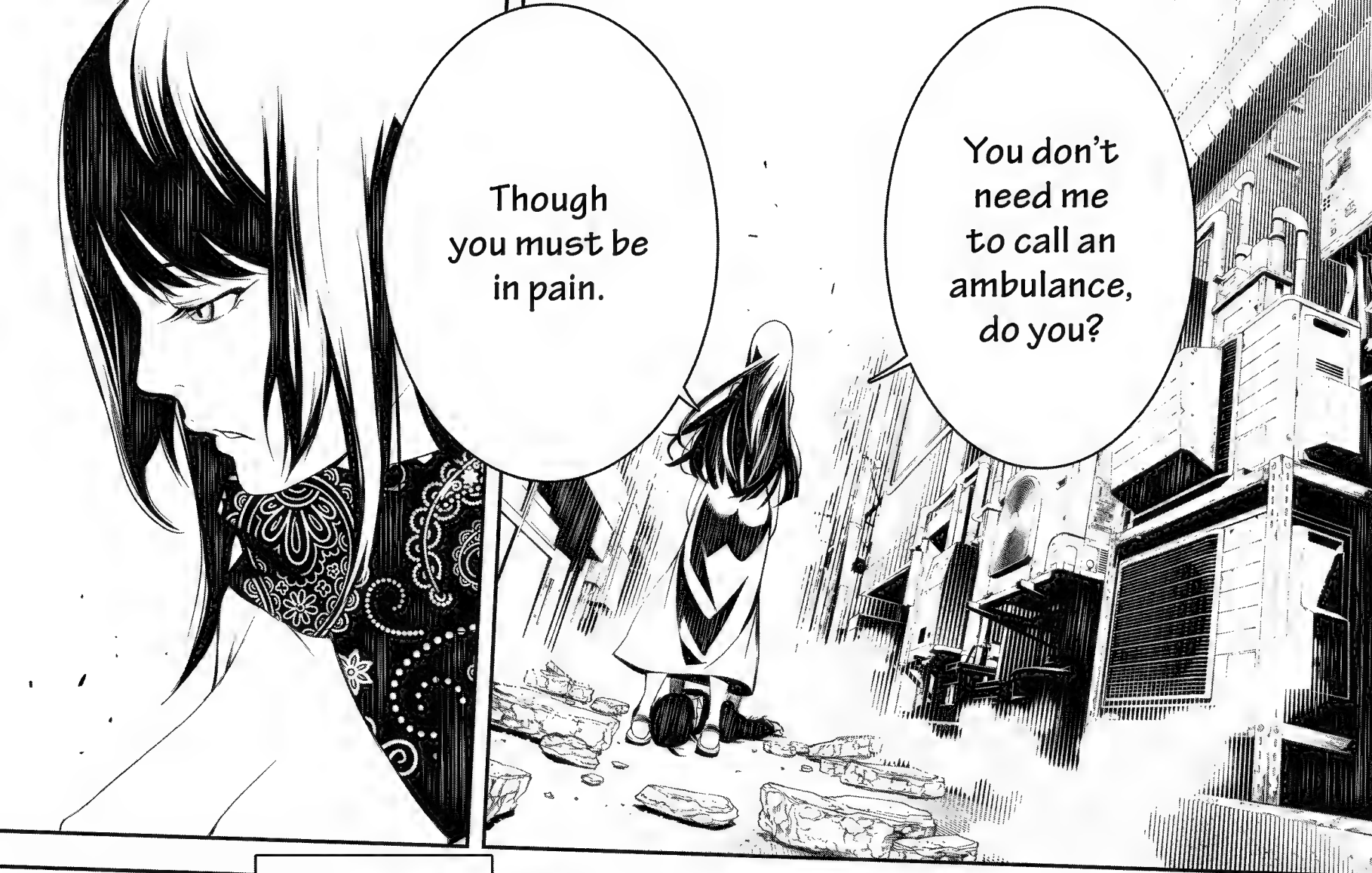
ひま
TUG

Okay, then.
I'll reward
you with a
very special
something.

Oh.



FWOOSH



Though
you must be
in pain.

You don't
need me
to call an
ambulance,
do you?



to help
ease my
pain...?

Is she
trying to
cheer me
up

Um
...



then
that is
something
I'm very
happy
about.

If she came
for me, unable
to wait any
longer when I
no-showed the
study session I
had promised,

I
think
so.



But

the smell
of a beast
still hung in
the air.



I
should
con-
fess.



Maybe

didn't
care
anymore.

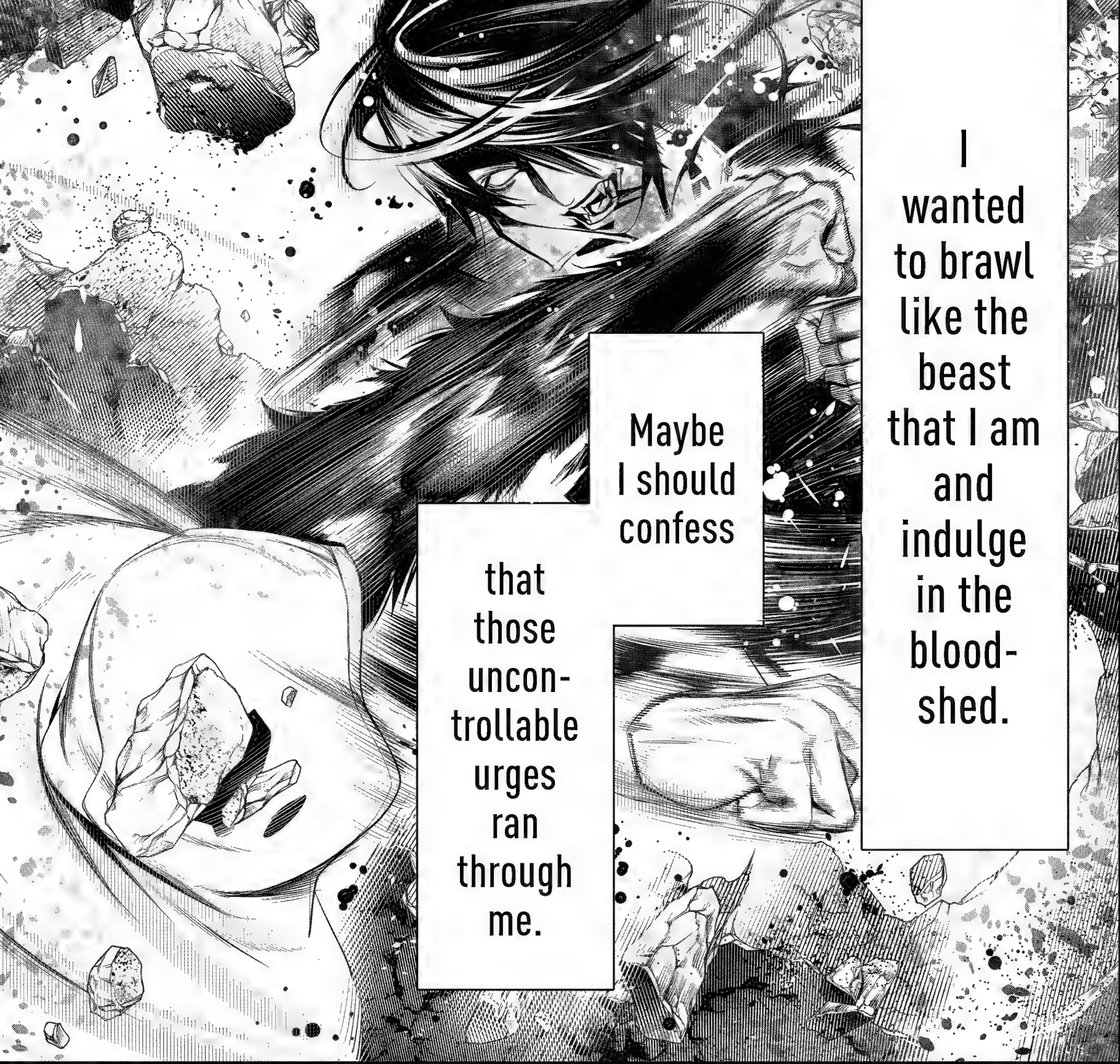


I

when
I realized
the beast's
intentions,
in that
moment
...



Back
then
...



Maybe
I should
confess

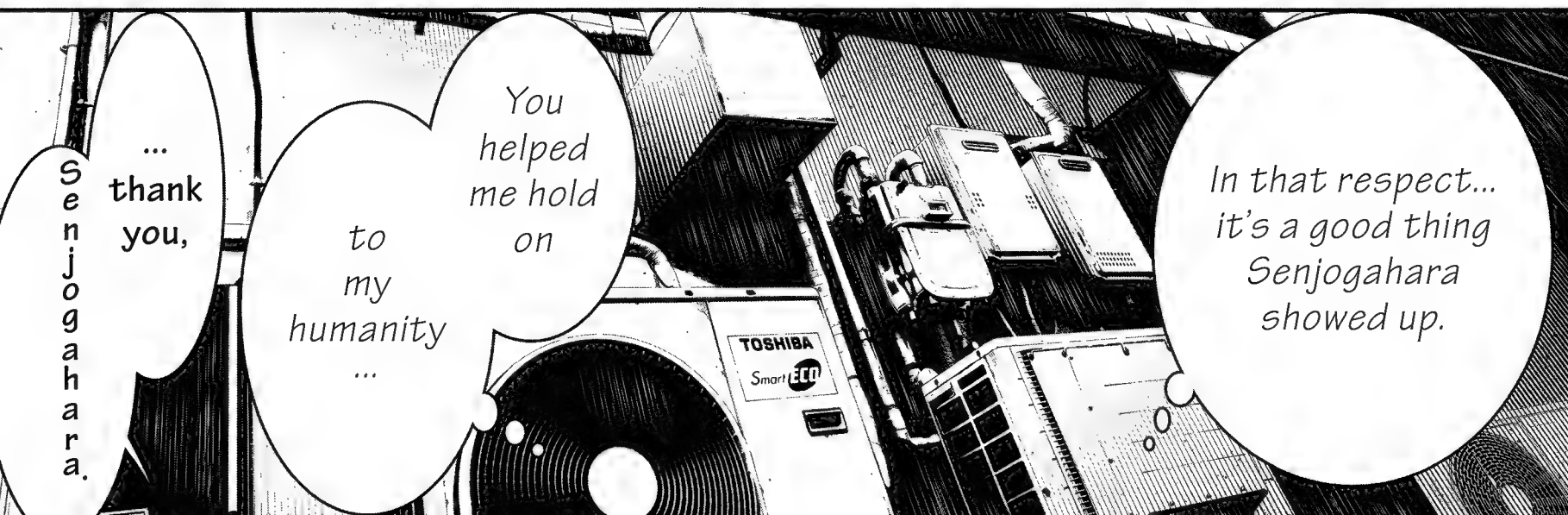
that
those
uncon-
trollable
urges
ran
through
me.

I
wanted
to brawl
like the
beast
that I am
and
indulge
in the
blood-
shed.



It
lives
in me
forever.

The monster
inside me...
*will never
die.*



Senjogahara.

...
thank
you,

to
my
humanity
...

You
helped
me hold
on

In that respect...
it's a good thing
Senjogahara
showed up.



The
next
day,

*This is
a rare
opportunity,
so I should
take a good
look.*



I paid
a visit to
Kanbaru's
house.

Continued in Volume 5

Next Volume

Preview

There are sudden glimpses of Suruga's shadow.

BAKEMONOGATARI 5

A surprise attack by an unknown aberration.

What "wish" did she make

when the two came together?

The truth behind "Suruga Monkey."

Ah.
All right.

To
business,
then.

COMING SUMMER 2020!

BAKEMONOGATARI

volume 4

A Vertical Comics Edition

Editing: Kristi Fernandez

Translation: Ko Ransom

Production: Grace Lu

Hiroko Mizuno

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BAKEMONOGATARI (manga) 4

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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